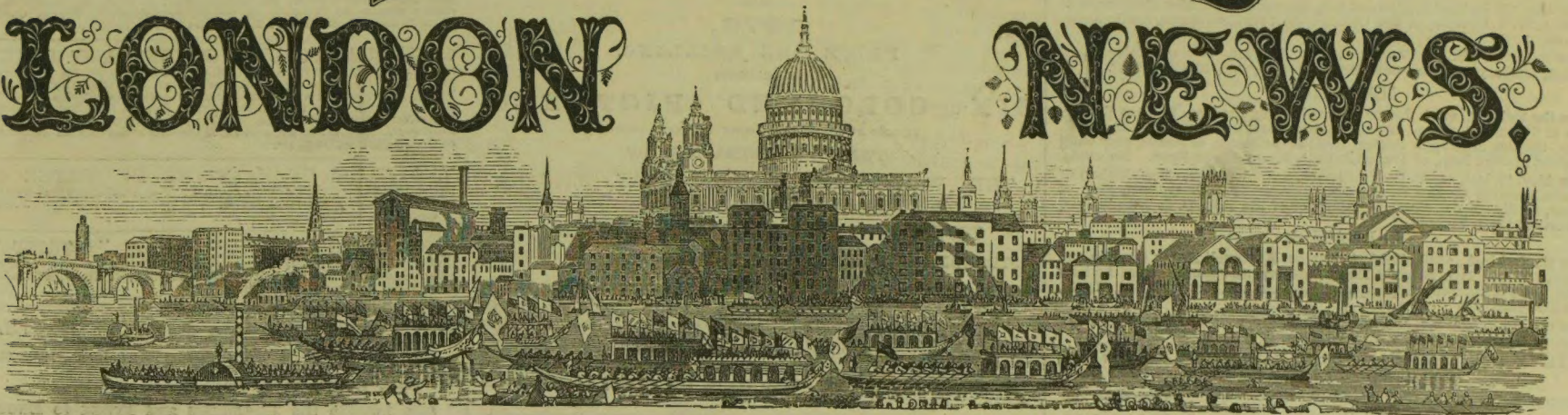


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1741.—VOL. LXII.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1873.

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT } SIXPENCE.
BY POST, 6D.



HORSES AND CAMELS PRESENTED TO THE EMPEROR. HOW THE CHINESE SAW THE BRIDAL PROCESSION. LED HORSES IN THE BRIDAL PROCESSION.
THE CHINESE IMPERIAL MARRIAGE AT PEKIN.
FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

BIRTHS.

On Nov. 18, 1872, at Ootacamund, Madras Presidency, the wife of J. Sturrock, Esq., Madras Civil Service, of a son.
On the 2nd inst., at Piazza di Spagna, Rome, Mrs. W. P. Colchester, of a son.
On the 7th inst., at Guilford-street, Russell-square, Mrs. Cousins, wife of Mr. A. W. V. Cousins, of the Colonial Civil Service, Straits Settlements, of a son.
On the 27th ult., at Bangalore, Mrs. Stewart, wife of Major R. C. Stewart, Military Assistant Commissioner of Mysore, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 18th ult., at St. James's, Piccadilly, by the Rev. William Barber, Vicar of Tynham, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. G. W. W. Minns, Charles Montague Barber, Esq., of Leicester, to Annie, only child of Robert Brown, Esq., of Bentinck Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne. No cards.
On Nov. 20 last, at St. Paul's Church, Toronto, by the Lord Bishop of Toronto, assisted by the Rev. Salter Givens, Thomas Beckett, Esq., of Quebec, to Naomi Anne, second daughter of the Hon. D. L. Macpherson, of Chestnut Park, Toronto.

DEATHS.

On the 2nd inst., at Sheffield, Alexander Macdonell Bonar, Captain and Adjutant of the 11th Brigade Royal Artillery, and second son of Andrew Bonar, Esq., of 29, Pembroke-square, London, and Basset Wood, Hants, in his 33rd year.
On the 3rd inst., at No. 1, Grove-villas, Acton, near London, Christiana, wife of George Henderson, Kingston, Jamaica, aged 51.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 18.

SUNDAY, JAN. 12.

First Sunday after Epiphany.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. William Rogers, M.A., Chaplain to the Lord Mayor; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Lightfoot, D.D.; 7 p.m., the Right Rev. the Bishop of Rochester.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., probably, the Ven. Archdeacon Jennings; 3 p.m., uncertain.
St. James's, noon, the Rev. Canon Sir John Hobart Seymour, Bart., M.A.
Whitehall, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Rev. W. F. Erskine Knollys, M.A. Savoy, 11.30 a.m. and 7 p.m., the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons.
Temple Church, 11 a.m., probably the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 3 p.m., the Rev. Alfred Amger, M.A., Reader at the Temple.

MONDAY, JAN. 13.

St. Hilary, Bishop and Confessor. Cambridge Lent Term begins. Full moon, 4.23 p.m.
Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Old Kent-road: General Court, at the London Tavern.
London Institution, 4 p.m. (Dr. H. E. Armstrong on Earth, Air, Fire, and Water).
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, quarterly court, noon.
Medical Society, 8 p.m.
Monday Popular Concerts, St. James's Hall (Beethoven night), 8 p.m.
Royal Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m. (Sir C. W. Lawrence on the Journey from Kyoto to Jeddo; Mr. Gubbins on the Ascent of Fujiyama, Japan; Mr. F. R. H. McClatchie, on a Trip in Musashi, Japan).
Gresham Lecture, Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (the Rev. Joseph Pullen on Astronomy).
National Association for Social Science, 8 p.m. (Mr. E. O. Greening on Co-operation).

TUESDAY, JAN. 14.

Oxford Lent Term begins.
Dr. Vaughan, the Master of the Temple, begins public readings on the Greek Testament, 8 a.m.
Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Rutherford on the Forces and Motions of the Body).
British Orphan Asylum, Slough: General Court at City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, noon.
Photographic Society, 8 p.m.
St. Paul's Cathedral: Lecture to Young Men, 8 p.m. (Bishop Claughton on the Religious Principle in Christianity in this Country).

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 18.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1 12	1 35	1 58	2 20	2 37	2 55	3 10

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; long. 0° 13' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 A.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
Jan. 1	29.765	44.8	40.0	84	6.10	42.0	48.2	SW. SSW. S.	407	.250
2	29.532	43.8	39.6	86	6	43.0	47.0	SSW. SW.	429	.140
3	29.690	45.6	41.5	87	6	40.0	49.3	SSW. SW.	410	.033
4	29.739	45.8	46.7	93	10	43.6	53.4	S. SSW.	667	.300
5	29.825	44.4	37.2	78	10	42.7	47.6	SW. WSW.	380	.010
6	30.050	45.2	43.1	84	10	42.0	50.9	SSW. SW.	465	.000
7	30.057	46.8	40.2	79	4	46.0	49.0	SSW. S.	333	.000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.824	29.747	29.713	29.838	29.778	30.034	30.128
Temperature of Air	43.9	46.3	47.3	46.7	43.9	49.3	48.9
Temperature of Evaporation	42.2	42.1	44.7	45.7	41.7	46.3	45.2
Direction of Wind	SSW.	SSW.	SSW.	S.	SW.	SW.	S.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—Lessee, Mr. Dion Boucicault. —BASIL and BLIQU (by Dion Boucicault and J. R. Planche, Esqrs.). Every Evening, at Seven. Morning Performance Every Saturday at Two. Box-office open daily from Ten till Five.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Mr. W. S. Gilbert's New Fairy Comedy, THE WICKED WORLD, Every Evening. Characters by Messrs. Kendal, Arnott, Buckstone, Medcalf, Robertson, Amy Roselle, M. Litton, &c. And other entertainments. Box-office daily, Ten till Five.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Bateman. —Every Evening until further notice, an entirely original Play, by W. G. Wills, written expressly for this Theatre, entitled CHARLES I.—Charles I., Mr. Henry Irving; Oliver Cromwell, Mr. George Belmore; Mr. Forrester, Mr. E. F. Edgar, Mr. R. Markby, Miss G. Parncefort; and Queen Henrietta Maria, Miss Isabelle Bateman. The Play is produced with new and appropriate Scenery by Hawes Craven and H. Cuthbert. Performance will commence at 7.15 with A HAPPY PAIR—Mr. C. Warner and Miss Virginia Francis; concluding with THE LOTTERY TICKET—Mr. George Belmore.

NOW READY,

THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK

FOR

1873,

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AS HEADINGS TO THE CALENDAR, BY G. GODDARD.

TWELVE FINE-ART ENGRAVINGS;

ASTRONOMICAL DIAGRAMS OF REMARKABLE PHENOMENA,

WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES;

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The SHILLING ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK is published at the Office of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, 193, Strand, and sold by all Booksellers and Newsagents.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—Sole Lessee and

Manager, F. B. Chatterton.—Morning Performances every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Doors open at 1.30, commence at 1.45. TO-NIGHT, the Drury Lane Comic Christmas Annual, entitled THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD; or, Harlequin Queen Mab, or the World of Dreams. Written by E. L. Blanchard, with Characteristic Scenery by W. Beverly. Popular Music composed and selected by W. C. Levey. Fanciful Ballet and general action of the Pantomime arranged by Mr. J. Cornack, under the supervision of Mr. F. B. Chatterton. Characters in the Opening by the celebrated Vokes Family, Misses F. E. Chatterton, Violet Cameron, Russell, Mary Hamilton, A. Temple, Miller, D'Arcy, A. Harriet Coveney, Lizzie Grosvener, Mead, Ford, &c.; Messrs. Brittain Wright, James Johnston, Rignold, Lickfold, &c. Characters in the Harlequinade—Messrs. Fred Evans and W. H. Harvey, Clowns; Willie Harvey and W. F. Vokes, Harlequins; the Misses Rosina and Jessie Vokes, Columbine; Mr. Paul Herring and J. Morris, Pantaloon; A. Mowbray, Lizzie Grosvener, Harlequina; Number Nip, Nigger Minstrel; Herr Schmidt and Sons, Acrobats; the Brothers Guida, the Comic Skaters; Miss Coltonetti, the Pedestal Skipping-Rope Dancer; and Twelve Chorister Boys. Preceded by the Farce of THE TALE OF A COMET. Doors open at Half-past Six; commence at Seven, and terminate at Eleven. Box-office open daily from Ten till Five.—Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

OPERA COMIQUE, Strand.—Doors open at 6.30; at 7.30, THE SEVEN, Offenbach's Favourite Bouffonerie, THE BLIND BEGGARS; at 7.30, THE POSTBOY; at Nine, L'ÉLÉ CRÉVE; or, The Merry Toxophilites, by Hervé; the English adaptation by H. B. Farlie. Private Boxes and Stalls at all the Libraries and Box-offices. Prices, 1s. to 3s. No fees for booking.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.—

The splendid Pantomime of CINDERELLA; or, Harlequin and the Little Glass Slipper, every Evening, at Seven o'clock; Morning Performances every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 12.30, to which Children under Ten half price to all parts of the House.

THE GREAT AND ONLY EQUESTRIAN PANTOMIME.

THE BIRTH OF BEAUTY; OR, HARLEQUIN WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR AND THE PRETTY WHITE HORSE WITH A GOLDEN HOOF.

AT SANGERS' GRAND AMPHITHEATRE (late Astley's.)

ALL LONDON seems bent upon seeing this truly Great Production; the excitement produced by the magnificent Transformation SCENE (which alone is worth travelling a hundred miles to see) is something wonderful, and the thousands of spectators assembled at each performance show that this Establishment has become the great attraction.

SANGERS' (late Astley's).

ENGAGEMENT of LAURA FAY, who will appear in two great characters. New Scenes, New Songs, New Artists, New Additions to the Gorgeous Transformation Scene, and everything in thorough working order.

MACDERMOTT, the Great Burlesque Actor of the Age, at each representation. Mr. HAZLEWOOD, as the jealous Queen Matilda.

LATE ASTLEY'S.

THE FINEST THEATRE IN LONDON. A Splendid View from all parts of the House. Good ventilation and excellent accommodation.

MISS LENNOX GREY, Miss Marie Courtenay, and Miss De Grey still continue to draw forth unbounded applause.

TRAMS and BUSES PASS THE DOOR TO ALL PARTS OF LONDON; the Underground Railway within a minute's walk.

GRAND ILLUMINATED DAY PERFORMANCES

EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, commencing at Two o'clock. Doors open every evening at 6.30; commence at Seven. Box-office open daily from Eleven till Four, under the direction of Mr. Drysdale. Prices:—Gallery, 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Upper Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Pit Stalls, 2s.; Boxes, 2s.; Dress Circle, 3s.; Private Boxes, from 11s. 6d. to 45s.

GRAND CIRQUE, HOLBORN.—Daily at Two and Seven.—Lessee, Mr. C. Weldon.—The Gorgeous Spectacle of LILYPUT ISLE. 200 Children, Mollies, Azella and Rosita in their Marvellous Mid-Air Flights. The Baby Horse-breaker received with shouts of delight. Les Frères Nicolet, the acrobatic sensation of 1872. The whole of the Metropolitan Journals describe the Entertainment as the most delightful in London. The wonderful Equestrian, Gymnastic, and Acrobatic Feats; highly-trained Horses, Ponies, &c. Performances twice daily—in the afternoon at 2.30, in the evening at 7.30. Open at Two and Seven. Gallery, 6d.; Promenade, 1s.; Pit Stalls, 2s.; Boxes, 3s.; Balcony Stalls, 4s.; Private Boxes from 11s. Children half price to all parts except Gallery. Box-office open at Ten a.m. No fees or extra charges.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—Messrs. Moore and

Burgess, Sole Lessees. Great and glorious success of the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' HOLIDAY PROGRAMME, which will be repeated EVERY NIGHT at Eight, and on EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at Three and Eight, until further notice. Private Boxes, 11s. 6d. and 12s. 6d.; Front Stalls, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Doors open for the Day Performance at 2.30; for the Evening Performance at Seven. No charge for booking seats. No fees or extra charges whatsoever.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The MOORE and BURGESS

MINSTRELS' HOLIDAY PROGRAMME, again pronounced by the whole of the leading Metropolitan Papers an unequalled success from beginning to end. The attendance at the St. James's Great Hall throughout the past week (at both the Day and Evening Performances) was really marvellous, hundreds of persons having been turned from the doors at each performance, owing to the vast hall being literally crammed from area to gallery. The whole of the leading Newspapers agree in pronouncing the aspect presented at St. James's Grand Hall on Boxing Day as one of the sights of London. The New Programme, having met with the cordial approval of the public, will be repeated until further notice. Every night at Eight; Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at Three and Eight.

S. T. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.

THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS will give THREE GRAND JUVENILE PERFORMANCES during the Present Week—viz., MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, at Three. The new and highly-successful Programme will be given in its entirety on each occasion. Children under Twelve half price to Stalls and Area. Doors open at 2.30. Carriages at Five.

MR. and MRS. REED'S New and Original Entertainment, entitled HAPPY ARCADIA, ALL ABOARD, and VERY CATCHING.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight. Morning Representations during the Christmas Holidays, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s.

CONCERT-HALL, AGRICULTURAL HALL.—168th Representation of HAMILTON'S NEW ROUTE TO INDIA, with splendid Additions. Magnificent Scenery by T. Bellin. Vocal Illustrations by Mr. J. Turner and Miss Blanche Owen. Cléopâtre, Mr. Wilsand. Every Evening at Eight. Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, Three and Eight.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—BEETHOVEN NIGHT on MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 13 NEXT. Executants, Madame Arabella Goddard, M. Strauss, L. Ries, Zerbini, and Platt. Vocalist, Mr. Santley. Conductor, M. Zerbini. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Programmes and Tickets at Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL. The first EVENING CONCERT on WEDNESDAY NEXT, at Eight o'clock. Artists: Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Banks, and Madame Patey. Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Nordblom, and Mr. Santley. The London Orpheus Quartet. Pianoforte, Mlle. Elvira Del Bianco. Conductors, Mr. J. L. Hatton and Herr Meyer Lutz. Tickets, 1s. to 6s., to be had of Austin, St. James's Hall; Boosey and Co., Holles-street; and the principal Music-sellers.

SIMS REEVES, SANTLEY, EDITH WYNNE, and MADAME PATEY at the BALLAD CONCERT on WEDNESDAY EVENING.

FOURTH BRITISH ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.—ST.

JAMES'S HALL.—Patron, H.R.H. the DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G.—Conductor, Mr. George Mount.—THURSDAY, JAN. 23. Symphony B flat, Beethoven; Overture (M.S.), St. John the Baptist (first time), G. A. Macfarren; Concerto, A minor, No. 5, Molique. Violin, Mr. Carrodus. Overture, "Der Freyschütz," Weber. Vocalists, M. J. Florence Lancia, Mr. W. H. Cummings, and Mr. Santley. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Balcony Unreserved, 4s.; Area (Reserved), 5s.; Tickets, 2s. and 1s. Stanley Lucas, Weber, and G. A. 84, New Bond-street; Craner, 201, Regent-street; L. Cook, 63, Chappell, 50, New Bond-street; Ollivier, 38, Mitchell, 33, Old Bond-street; Keith, Prowse, Cheapside; A. Hays, Royal Exchange; and Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall.

SATURDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.

EXTRA CONCERT, on SATURDAY, JAN. 18, when the Programme will include Mozart's Quintet in G minor; Beethoven's Sonata in A major, Op. 12, No. 2, for Piano and Violin, &c. Executants, Madame Norman-Neruda, M. Charles Hallé, L. Ries, Strauss, Zerbini, and Deubert. Vocalist, Mr. Santley. Conductor, Sir Julius Benedict. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Programmes and Tickets at Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street. The Annual Series of Seven Concerts commences on Saturday, Jan. 23. Subscription to Sofa Stalls, £1 10s.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE SEVENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES, &c., now OPEN from Ten till Six. Admission 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Sec. Gallery, 53, Pall-mall.

DORE'S GREAT PICTURE of "CHRIST LEAVING

THE PRETORIUM," with "Triumph of Christianity," "Christian Martyrs," "Francesca di Rimini," "Neophyte," "Titanis," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

A SPECIAL PRINT, from a drawing by George Leslie, Esq., A.R.A., entitled THE FERRYMAN'S DAUGHTER, will be issued, gratis, with the Number for next week; which will also include the TITLEPAGE and INDEX to ENGRAVINGS for VOLUME 61—from July to December, 1872.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1873.]

The death of the Emperor Napoleon, whose bodily frame, never robust, has failed, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, to endure the surgical operation that was needful for the removal of a painful disease, is an event which few of us can be surprised to learn. His Majesty expired, about noon on Thursday, at his English residence, Camden Place, Chiselmhurst, where he has been permitted, by the Merciful Disposer of all human lives, to rest awhile in comparative seclusion from the distracting cares and toils of sovereign political power, and perhaps to recover that peace of mind which is more precious than the splendid prize of successful worldly ambition.

We are speaking the general sentiment of this nation, whatever may be the feelings aroused by this news in France and Germany, when we say that the death of our illustrious guest is an occasion to us of sincere regret; and that we are disposed to entertain, on the whole, a fair degree of respect for his memory, notwithstanding those grave errors in his public conduct which were sufficiently punished by his fall from the throne he had won. For it is worthy of remark that the censurable or questionable passages in his career, as it will appear to the judgment of impartial history, were chiefly those in which he yielded to the temptation of gaining or keeping power by wrongful expedients; and that in the exercise of power, when he seemed to hold it more securely, his policy was mainly directed to objects of beneficence and justice. It cannot be denied that Napoleon III. had the welfare both of France and of Europe at heart, though he was sometimes guilty of postponing their interests, and the principles of equity and humanity, to his darling scheme of founding a new Imperial dynasty. That scheme, if not purely selfish, was the fanaticism of one who believed in the Providential destiny of his family to perform a necessary task in remodelling the conditions of the European world. In the arrogance of this singular faith, too easily joined with the passions of ordinary egotism which have prompted many usurpers, who had less excuse than he, to more unrighteous acts, the heir of Napoleon I. was impelled to certain measures which are morally indefensible, and which in the long run did not answer his purpose. There are parties enough to denounce his errors now in France, where the mischievous political effects are still felt of a course which has shaken public trust in governing men and in the stability of laws and political institutions. It is not for us in England to share the resentment of hostile factions, whose behaviour, at their turn of opportunity, has seldom been more clear of reproach. The late Emperor was never the enemy of our country, which has, indeed, upon several important occasions, found him a loyal and useful friend.

What may have been the Imperial patient's reflection on a retrospect of his adventurous career it is not for us to guess. A man bowed down by calamity, in whatever shape or owing to whatever cause, is worthy of deep sympathy, and usually attracts it because he is a man. No doubt the fall of the highest towers when stricken down by lightning is more impressive than the ruin of humbler buildings. But, in the main, trouble sanctifies humanity; and when we see pain and anguish, whether they be bodily or mental, or both, appointed to those who but recently occupied the highest places of society, we are touched with reverential pity. We saw the former Sovereign of the French Empire, who, together with the Empress and the young man their son, now just emerging into adolescence, was exiled from the land over which for nearly twenty years he swayed the sceptre of supreme authority, lying, as it were, between the confines of life and death, calm, collected, courageous, but, so far as we have heard, not communicative. One would not have been surprised to see France fascinated by the sadness of the picture—moved to the very centre of her being, not foolishly, not sentimentally, not even dramatically, but reflectively—because there had been so much in common

between herself and the suffering Emperor. There may be, it is true, some exchange of sentiment going on between Versailles and Camden Place of which the public hears nothing. We doubt, however, whether on the part of France there has been, or is likely to be, much manifestation of concern. She studies the present simply with a view to the future. We hardly know whether she has recovered even that degree in the scale of wisdom. The passions of political party are too rife to admit of much thought for the interests of the people at large.

Somehow or other, things do not settle down under the direction of M. Thiers and the National Assembly as the friends of France could wish to see them. The Representatives resumed their sittings on Monday last, after the brief recess of the Christmas season. They were quieter than has been their wont, and the business taken in hand was of the driest and most routine character. There have been interviews, also, between the President of the Republic and the two sub-committees into which the Committee of Thirty was divided for the purpose of examining and reporting upon various proposals of constitutional change. Yet it is tolerably certain that what is now called a "modus vivendi" between M. Thiers and the Assembly has not yet been devised, and that there is likely to be, for some months to come, perpetual skirmishing—occasionally culminating in critical general engagements—the inevitable effect of which must be to postpone the wellbeing of the country to the settlement of squabbles between Parliamentary partisans.

It would be well, however, not to take for granted that things are altogether so bad as they seem to be. The material progress of France is unquestionably remarkable. The last Census shows that between the excess of mortality occasioned by the war, and the loss of two flourishing provinces by the treaty of peace, France has sustained altogether a decrease of population. But she is yet within a trifle as strong now in the number of her children as she was before she rushed into the late conflict with Germany. She is not overwhelmed by the weight of her fiscal burdens, enormous as they are. She has almost entirely recovered from that depression of spirit which characterised her general demeanour throughout the general election of the present National Chamber. She needs only wise moral restraints and good moral guidance to make her influence once more supreme in the councils of Europe. If the late Emperor could have given her these, and have set her interests above the permanent establishment of a Napoleonic Dynasty, he would not now have been left almost alone to die in another country, nor would France have been teased into constant uneasiness by the blind selfishness and passion of political parties.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, continues to sojourn at Osborne House.

Her Majesty gave presents on New Year's evening to all the servants of the household at Osborne, for whom Christmas-trees had been prepared in the steward's room and the servants' hall. The Queen, accompanied by the members of the Royal family, proceeded to the rooms, where the servants were assembled at half-past five o'clock, and personally distributed the gifts.

The Right Hon. Hugh Childers dined with her Majesty yesterday (Friday) week.

On Saturday last Prince Christian and Prince Christian Victor and Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein left Osborne for Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Park. The Countess of Gainsborough left Osborne.

On Sunday the Queen, Princess Christian, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero officiated, and administered the sacrament of the holy communion.

On Monday the Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, drove to Ryde.

On Tuesday Sir Thomas and the Hon. Lady Biddulph dined with her Majesty.

On Wednesday Princess Christian left Osborne en route for Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Park. Prince Leopold, accompanied her Royal Highness to Portsmouth in her Majesty's yacht *Alberta*, and afterwards returned to Osborne. Princess Christian proceeded to Brighton, and visited Mrs. George Grant Gordon, who has been for some time past an invalid, at the residence of her father, Mr. Laurence Peel, in Sussex-square. The Princess, later in the day, continued her journey to Windsor.

The Queen, with the members of the Royal family, has taken her customary walking and driving exercise in the vicinity of the Royal demesne.

The Queen has appointed the Countess of Gainsborough to be an extra lady of the bedchamber to her Majesty.

Viscount Bridport and Colonel Lynedoch Gardiner have succeeded Colonel Du Plat and Colonel Ponsonby as equerries in waiting to the Queen.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales took leave of the Earl of Leicester and the Ladies Coke on Saturday last, and left Holkham Hall upon their return to Sandringham. The Dean of Westminster arrived at Sandringham House from London. On Sunday the Prince and Princess, with their elder children, attended Divine service at Sandringham church. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow and the Dean of Westminster officiated. The Dean preached a sermon in aid of the fund for the relief of the eight widows and nineteen orphans of the Lynn fishermen who perished in the recent gales. The Prince has subscribed £20 and the Princess £10 to the widow and orphans of the Lynn fishermen fund. On Monday the Prince left Sandringham for Marlborough House. On Tuesday his Royal Highness left town on a visit to Sir Anthony Rothschild, at Aston Clinton, Bucks. The Prince was met at the Tring railway station by Sir Anthony Rothschild. His Royal Highness was warmly received by the townspeople, and the streets were decorated and illuminated. On Wednesday evening a grand ball was given at Aston Clinton in honour of the Royal visitor. The Prince has had excellent sport, shoot-

ing. The Princess, with her children, remained at Sandringham during the Prince's visit. Prince Albert Victor of Wales attained his ninth year on Wednesday. The day was observed at Windsor with due honours. The Prince and Princess will give a ball next week at Sandringham House. The Prince will preside at the annual festival for the benefit of the Asylum for Aged Free-masons and their Widows, which will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, in the second week in February. Colonel Teesdale has succeeded Major Grey as Equerry in attendance upon the Prince.

The Earl and Countess of Carnarvon have left Highclere Castle for a tour on the Continent.

The Earl and Countess of Jersey have left Middleton for Mentone.

The Earl and Countess of Ilchester have left town for Melbury House, Dorsetshire.

The Earl of Kintore has arrived in town from the south of France.

Viscount and Viscountess Holmesdale have arrived at Grosvenor-place Houses.

Viscountess Combermere has arrived in Belgrave-square from Norwood.

The coming of age of the Hon. Mr. Clifford, eldest son of Lord Clifford, was celebrated with great éclat, on Thursday week, at Chudleigh, Kingsteignton.

Count Schouvaloff arrived in England on Tuesday, and proceeded at once to Walmer Castle to confer with Earl Granville. It is believed that he has a mission from the Czar to offer the British Government his Majesty's most conciliatory assurances.

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

The Emperor Napoleon died on Thursday last. His Majesty had been suffering from a severe and painful indisposition, which necessitated operations of lithotomy, the first of which was performed on Thursday week, and the second on Monday. Sir Henry Thompson was the operator, who, with Dr. Conneau and Baron Corvisart, was in constant attendance, and Sir William Gull was in daily consultation at Camden House, Chiselhurst. The Emperor exhibited his usual fortitude under his intense sufferings. Telegrams were constantly forwarded during the Emperor's illness to the Queen and the members of the Royal family, as also to the various Continental Courts and members of the aristocracy. The utmost sympathy has been evinced for the Empress. The Prince Imperial discontinued his studies at the Royal Academy, Woolwich, at the commencement of the illness of the Emperor.

REPORT FROM THE PHYSICIANS.

The *Lancet* publishes the following telegram from Chiselhurst:—

Jan. 9, 11 a.m.
The Emperor was visited by his medical attendants at eleven o'clock last night; again at two a.m. by Dr. Conneau; at four a.m. by Dr. Le Baron Corvisart; and at six a.m. by Sir Henry Thompson, each of whom found him sleeping soundly, and materially better than on the preceding night; pulse between 80 and 84. At 9.45 this morning his Majesty was seen by the above named, and also by Mr. Clover; and an operation at noon was decided on. The pulse was then 84, strong and regular, and the local symptoms improved. At 10.25 signs of sinking appeared, the heart's action suddenly failed, and he died at 10.45.

HENRY THOMPSON. DR. LE BARON CORVISART.
DR. CONNEAU. J. T. CLOVER.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS OF CHINA.

Our Special Artist at Pekin, Mr. Simpson, whose illustrations of the proceedings at the marriage of the Emperor of China, on Oct. 16, have appeared in the last three or four Numbers of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*, furnishes also the sketches of several minor incidents observed by him on that occasion, which occupy the front page of this week's paper. He writes to us, in explanation of the subjects here treated by his pencil, to the following effect, beginning with some remarks on the manner in which a surreptitious view of the bridal procession, represented in our large Engraving of Dec. 28, was obtained by many unlicensed spectators of that singular pageant:—

"A bridal procession—that is, an Imperial one—in Pekin reminds one of the mysteries of Ceres. It takes place at night, lanterns are the torches, a long procession passes, faintly seen, like beings of another world, under the dim glimmer of a clouded moon. Great care is taken to keep out the profane, streets are barricaded, and curtains are put up, so that no eye may penetrate the great mystery which is going on. A grand sight is prepared, but no one must look at it. Here was forbidden fruit, tempting all the daughters of Eve! Every one of them had a desire to be Lot's wife or Mrs. Bluebeard on this occasion. The feeling, indeed, was not confined to the fair sex; all the sons of Eve had also a desire to get a peep at what was prohibited. Now, the doors and windows of a Chinese shop are formed of geometric patterns in wood, and a thin paper is pasted over this, which performs the function of glass; I mean to say, a dim light comes through it, but it is unlike glass in one respect—that is, objects are not visible when it is between you and them. For the purpose of having a quiet peep, unknown to those who are watching outside, nothing could be better adapted. You have only to put your finger through the paper, and you have a hole by which you can see through without being seen. The whole street is visible, and your eye is invisible. The people watching at such holes have very much the appearance of children at a peep-show. Such was the way the people of Pekin, 'foreign devils' as well, saw the bridal procession."

Our Artist makes the following note upon the horses led in the bridal procession:—"A funeral procession and a bridal procession are said to resemble each other very much in this part of the world. The principal difference is that a dead body is carried in a coffin, in the one case, and a bride is carefully concealed in a closed-up chair, in the other. In the funeral rites of the ancient Scythians the horse was one of the principal figures; and their Manchoo descendants give this animal a most prominent place in the marriage of their great chief at the present day. I am told that generally about this season there are a good many Mongols in Pekin, but this year they are here in great numbers. The Mongol Princes have come to the marriage with their retinues, and to make presents of horses and camels seems to be their chief concern; or more probably it is an ancient custom, as being the proper gift to make at a wedding. A few days before the Imperial marriage I chanced to see about 300 horses and forty camels, which were led with rope bridles of Imperial yellow. The latter were the two-humped kind, known as the Bactrian camels; the horses were of a very diminutive breed. In the bridal procession about thirty of these small white horses, or ponies they ought to be called—the Hindostanee 'tattoo' is a word much better adapted to name them—were at the head of the cortège. They were all saddled and bridled, and a rich piece of silk was

thrown over the saddle. This was of the Imperial colour—a bright yellow. Each pony was led by one of the bearers, whose crimson-coloured dress, with round spots, contrasted beautifully with the yellow trappings. Some of the Mongol Princes rode in front, with a round badge on their breasts embroidered with the dragon; they also wore large tippets emblazoned with gold. The banners and large triple umbrellas came between the horses and the Imperial Umbrella and Bridal Chair."

In another letter, our Artist speaks of the religious and political transactions to follow the Imperial marriage:—

"The Emperor will officiate in the Temple of Heaven on Dec. 21, which is the winter solstice, according to the Chinese almanacks; and in February the two Empresses retire from the Regency. At present, when there is business to be done, these two ladies sit behind the Emperor, concealed by a curtain, but so placed as to hear whatever is said, and when a decision has been come to, they direct what is to be done, and the Emperor signs with the 'vermilion pencil' accordingly. General report gives them credit for having governed well while in power."

Our contemporary, the *Daily News*, has readily availed itself of the mission of our Special Artist to procure from him letters describing the scenes of Chinese life and the State nuptial ceremonies, of which he was sent out from England to make sketches expressly for the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*. As a testimony of the importance attached to the results of our Artist's skill and industry, which must, of course, reflect most credit on the enterprise that has placed him in a situation to witness so much that would not else have been delineated with pen or pencil for the European reader, we may quote the following comments of the *Daily News*; premising that our Artist's sketches of the interior of this "Temple of Heaven" are now being engraved for early publication:—

"We are able to give the public another singularly interesting glimpse at the interior of China. The Special Correspondent who a few weeks since got a perfect view, through a hole in the paper window of an opium-house, of the midnight procession at the Imperial marriage, has now penetrated to the Temple of Heaven, one of the most sacred of the temples of the State religion of China, and is able to give the Western World a description of the interior. Probably no correspondent of a newspaper has ever before seen this sacred spot. Indeed, the whole account he gives of the religious ceremonies in which the newly-married Emperor-Priest took part on the shortest day will be entirely new to the greater portion of the public. The association of religious ceremonies with the Winter Solstice is a very ancient form of superstition. Their existence in China connects the State religion of that decaying Empire with other religions of the ancient East. Like everything else in China, the Temple of Heaven seems to be neglected and decaying. The religion it represents is the extreme form of a political superstition—the doctrine of Divine Right in its most Imperial proportions. The letter is additionally important, not only as showing the connection of the Imperial religion of China with the form of government, but as an account by the latest Western observer of the interior of one of the Temples of this curious dying faith."

In the course of our Special Artist's voyage to China, last August and September, he supplied us with frequent illustrations of the common incidents to be met with along that great modern route of traffic between Western Europe and Eastern Asia. The ordinary life of passengers on board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steam-ships, in the Mediterranean, the Red Sea, and the Indian Ocean, with their experiences of climate, of ports and harbours, of coast scenery, and of maritime adventure, from Suez to Galle, and thence to Penang, Singapore, and Hong-Kong, has afforded many subjects for pictorial delineation. A few of these are still remaining; and the one presented this week is the mail steam-ship taking in cargo at Singapore. That thriving British settlement, which is of increasing commercial and political value, is situated on a small island at the southern extremity of the Malay peninsula, one degree north of the equator, and opposite the two great islands of Sumatra and Borneo, with Java and the other Dutch possessions. It has thus a central position between India, China, and Australia, the advantages of which cannot be rated too highly, in view of the probable future development of trade and population in the eastern and southern parts of the globe. Singapore is visited monthly, fortnightly, or weekly by the steamers of several different lines—the Peninsular and Oriental, the French Messageries Maritimes, the China Company of Liverpool, the Netherlands India, the Austrian Lloyd's, and others, which keep up a continual bustle in this port. The Peninsular and Oriental boats arrive on every alternate Tuesday and Saturday. Here the cargo is brought on board by Chinamen. There is a very large Chinese population settled at Singapore, and all coolie labour is done by them, such as taking in cargo and coaling. The Chinese are strong muscular fellows, contrasting strongly with the Lascars on board, who are rather lanky and thin. The Chinamen bring the cargo on board, and it is received by the Lascars, who put it down into the hold, reporting to the officer the number of bales, as well as the address and mark.

During last year there emigrated from the Mersey 90,253 English, 2726 Scotch, 24,838 Irish, and 67,926 foreigners. The emigration during the year shows a considerable increase over the Government returns of last year. The majority of emigrants went to the United States.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

Arrangements have been made to provide the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* with sketches of various matters of interest which are expected to take place, during the months that will ensue, in different parts of the world.

CHINA.—The well-known Special Artist of this Journal, Mr. William Simpson, who has been sent out to China from England expressly for this service, will contribute illustrations of the scenery, the great cities, the national habits and customs, and other characteristics of that vast Empire, as well as of the neighbouring countries in the Eastern Archipelago.

THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT will be traversed by Mr. Simpson on his way home; and in passing through California, British America, and the United States, from the Pacific to the Atlantic shores, he will be enabled to furnish a great number of sketches, representing the aspects of those new countries, and their progress in social improvement.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND will be visited by a correspondent who has already set forth on his voyage to the Antipodes, and who will procure fresh illustrations of whatever may have recently occurred of local importance in the several provinces of those remote British colonies.

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA have lately engaged a large amount of public attention, owing to the adventures and explorations of Dr. Livingstone, and the mission of Sir Bartle Frere to put an end to the Zanzibar slave trade; the Proprietors of this Journal have therefore arranged for an early supply of sketches from that quarter of the globe.

IN EUROPE, THE VIENNA UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION OF ART AND INDUSTRY is likely to be one of the most attractive subjects of notice after its opening in May; and the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* will employ Special Artists of competent knowledge and skill to represent the chief features of that Exhibition. A Special Correspondent has been sent to BERLIN, and sketches illustrating German Manners and Customs will appear from time to time; while at PARIS this Journal has a resident Correspondent.



C.R

SKETCHES IN BERLIN: SQUATTERS' VILLAGE IN THE SCHLAECHTER-WEISE.]



"THE EXILE OF SIBERIA IN SIGHT OF ST. PETERSBURG." BY G. E. HICKS.
FROM THE LATE EXHIBITION AT THE DUDLEY GALLERY.

A SQUATTERS' VILLAGE NEAR BERLIN.

Last April, when there was something like a general ejection by landlords bent upon securing higher rents of the poorest class among the population of Berlin, a large number of those who had been turned out settled with their families on some waste town lands in the neighbourhood, where they provided themselves with such hasty shelter as time and circumstances admitted. Finding themselves undisturbed, they began constructing wooden huts, each in his own fashion; and several flimsy villages sprang up outside the boundaries of the city. As the tenements were erected in a haphazard manner, every one pitching his tent where he pleased and huddling as close to his neighbour as he dared, the sanitary condition of these villages gave rise to serious alarm when rumours of coming cholera were prevalent. But the number of families occupying these tenements amounted to several hundreds, and it was a matter of great difficulty to find other places of shelter for them all. Eventually a certain number of them were housed in the old workhouse of the city, the inmates of which were removed elsewhere; and the huts from which they had been removed were demolished by the city firemen. One such village, however, situate in the Schlaechter Wiese, a short distance outside the Cottbuser Thor, was suffered to remain until the first indications of approaching winter manifested themselves, when the authorities took alarm at the prospect of a fire breaking out in a locality so exposed to that danger. Notice was therefore given to the inhabitants to clear out within the next few days from their recently-acquired homes, it having been determined that the huts should be forthwith levelled to the ground. Subsequently, the time was extended to the end of the next month. Before their demolition finally took place our correspondent, with an artist whose sketch we have engraved, paid a visit to this squatters' village. He learned that its inhabitants all belonged to the class of honest, if not perfectly industrious, poor. Of actually bad characters, he was informed there were none; and, what was more, they would not be tolerated. The heads of the various households appeared to be all away at work in Berlin or the outskirts. A working tinman, whose hut was entered, and who appeared to be a fair specimen of the intelligent German mechanic, was found busy at his calling. He represented that in the quarter of Berlin from which he had been ejected it was impossible for a working man to find a lodging, no matter how regularly he kept up his payments. Rents for the humbler class of apartments had quadrupled, he said, within his own recollection, and it was cheaper for him to live rent-free, as he was doing, and earn little more than half of what he had been accustomed to, owing to his being so far away from any market for his work, than to pay the exorbitant rent extorted from the humbler classes by the house proprietors of Berlin. The huts composing the village were of different degrees of stability; a few were soundly constructed and tolerably neatly boarded, showing the handiwork of the practised artisan; but the majority were more or less rickety structures, open to the elements, which a gale of wind would certainly unroof, if not level to the ground. The German national flag waved over one, and tattered Prussian eagles fluttered in the breeze above two of the others. Children were as numerous and quite as dirty and unkempt as ever they are found in a wild Irish bog, and fowls, together with rabbits, which were allowed to skip about wherever they pleased, were in abundance. The children, on sight of a couple of strangers, crowded round them, begging for groschen; and no sooner were these coins given to a few than word was passed on, till a perfect mob of them congregated, and struggled one against the other to snatch the money out of the visitors' hands. Adjoining some of the huts were planted a few cabbages, of stunted growth. The general aspect of the place was wretched and poverty-stricken, unworthy its nearness to the capital of the new German Empire.

"THE EXILE OF SIBERIA IN SIGHT OF ST. PETERSBURG."

In the picture by Mr. G. E. Hicks which we have engraved from the Exhibition of the Dudley Gallery (now closed) the artist evinces an imaginative sympathy far beyond the range of his usual subjects and of those of English artists generally. It is difficult to realise such an incident, so remote is the situation from any possible experience in our own peaceful, settled political life. Yet let not the reader be surprised that the artist has represented a woman, and evidently a lady, as the returned exile. After the Polish insurrection of 1863, during the reign of the present Emperor Alexander, it is said that nearly 20,000 insurgents were transported to Siberia, and all that they possessed was confiscated. Of this number 1500 were women, many of them ladies of rank; and a certain proportion, accused of complicity, were Russians. Besides these, not a few Russians were transported to Siberia for political offences quite unconnected with Polish affairs. After the Polish insurrection above mentioned, however, a number of women voluntarily shared the remote Siberian exile with their husbands, fathers, or sons, and some of these heroines, after a while, found their way back to St. Petersburg, to implore pardon for those so dear to them of the Empress. We are hardly, however, allowed to suppose that this is the errand of the lady in the picture, for if we read the word "exile" in the title in its strict sense we must infer that she herself was one of the condemned, and has either escaped from detention (which is barely possible) or returned after the expiration of her sentence. In either case we may not, of course, conclude from the long staff she holds that she has performed any considerable portion of the journey on foot. Siberian exiles have been known to reach Moscow by that means; but few, if any, least of all a delicate woman, have, without assistance, traversed the vast tracts which separate the Russian penal settlements from the metropolis. But we shall not violate probability by the conjecture that she has alighted from a sledge in a neighbouring road, and has mounted this eminence, commanding a first view of St. Petersburg across the Neva. To the reader we must leave it to imagine with what mingled feelings she surveys the stately capital of the despotic ruler who has inflicted so much suffering on her and hers—the home, perhaps, of her childhood, from which she has been severed by the distance of a continent. A word in conclusion to the artist: in this picture, as in other representations of a snow-storm that we have seen, the flakes fall between the foreground objects and the spectator in as large number absolutely as between him and the distant trees, which could not so happen in nature.

In several parts of the country there were storms of great violence yesterday week.

An account is published in the *Gazette* giving some particulars respecting the national receipts and expenditure which were not furnished in the recent revenue returns. In the nine months between April 1 and Dec. 31 the national income amounted to £51,684,686, as compared with £48,704,080 in the corresponding period of 1871. The expenditure in the same period was £51,247,064.

The Extra Supplement.

"THE SINGING LESSON."

A pretty subject is very prettily treated in this little picture by Herr Carl Schloesser. The effects of training are great; and many anecdotes might be told of the teachableness and sagacity of birds as well as dogs, particularly birds of the parrot and parrot species, like the plump, hook-beaked, gay-plumaged little fellow in the picture. The bird has evidently fallen into good hands; the old-fashioned face of this Bavarian urchin—as droll and old-fashioned as his slovenly costume—is evidently a kind one; and his attitude is that of patience itself. As we cannot hear the cadences of his piping, we may not judge of his musical proficiency, but he has all the air of an accomplished maestro. It will not be his fault if the bird does not make rapid progress; for, apart from his ability as music-master, he has provided an abundance of hips and haws for his pupil, and supplied him with an ample allowance of water wherewith to "wet his whistle." We have engraved the picture by aid of a photograph by Mr. Bingham.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Jan. 9.

The new-year holidays have passed over in Paris without any incident of moment. On Monday the members of the National Assembly resumed their sitting at Versailles. The gathering, however, was purely pro forma, no business of the slightest importance being transacted. On the day following MM. de Balcaster, d'Abbadie, du Temple, and other members of the Extreme Right, who during the recess had arranged their plan of action, opened the campaign in a covert fashion by giving notice of their intention to interpellate the Government concerning the recent resignation of the French Ambassador at the Vatican. M. Dufaure, while mentioning that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count de Rémusat, was too ill to attend, accepted the interpellation on behalf of his colleagues, and it was eventually decided that it should be discussed on Monday next. A rather animated debate followed concerning the prosecution of M. Carré Kerisouët, a deputy, who served as second in the duel fought some months ago by Baron Ritter, a financial functionary, and M. Appleton, sous-préfet of Mayence, and which resulted in the latter's death. M. Carré Kerisouët, who has all along admitted his share of responsibility in this unfortunate affair, expressed himself satisfied when, after a lively debate, the Chamber eventually authorised the Procureur-Général of Angers to take legal proceedings against him.

The two Sub-Committees of Thirty have met twice this week, but apparently without making much progress with the mission confided to them. Little that is to be depended upon has transpired concerning the interview which took place on Tuesday between the President and the first Sub-Committee, owing to M. Thiers having requested the Duc de Broglie and his colleagues to keep everything secret. Should, however, the reports in circulation be true, there is no particular reason for shrouding the sayings and doings of the committee in mystery: on Tuesday its transactions appear to have been limited to hearing some fresh explanations from M. Thiers, who, it is stated, still steadfastly declines to take the initiative in any Constitutional project. The President is also said to have refused to abandon his right of addressing the Chamber. In proof of the dread that the Royalists have of the veteran statesman's eloquence, in agreeing to leave him that right they have stipulated that the Assembly shall only vote four-and-twenty hours after he has spoken.

M. Thiers, having dined on Saturday with the Préfet of the Seine, and on Sunday with Count Arnim, returned to Versailles on Monday afternoon, and on Tuesday entertained the Generals of the Army of Versailles at dinner at the Prefecture. At Saturday's soirée at the Luxembourg it appears that a shoal of Radical deputies were present, with M. Gambetta at their head; and the President is reported to have conversed for some time with the ex-Dictator upon the leading political questions of the day. The company at the German Embassy on Sunday was composed principally of French official notabilities and members of the Corps Diplomatique, and of the foreign aristocracy now residing in Paris. It was significantly remarked that both the Papal Nuncio and the Danish Ambassador had declined Count Arnim's invitation.

Before returning to Versailles M. Thiers called upon Lord Lyons, and had a lengthy conference with him concerning the extradition treaty between France and England. On Tuesday the British Ambassador entertained the Corps Diplomatique at dinner.

The *Journal Officiel* has published the returns of the recent Census, from which it would appear that the population of France is at present 36,102,921, or 366,935 less than it was in 1866, minus Alsace and Lorraine. It is remarked that the decrease has taken place exclusively in the rural districts, the population of all the towns, with the exception of Toulouse, Lyons, Toulon, Bordeaux, and Cherbourg, having considerably increased.

SPAIN.

On Tuesday Senor Zorrilla presented to the King for signature the decree accepting the resignation of General de la Torre and appointing General Florez Captain-General of Porto Rico.

The irrepressible Carlists are at work again in the north; they have cut the railway in two places, burnt a station with petroleum, and carried off the officials as prisoners. The engine-drivers of the North of Spain Railway have struck work and refuse to convey passengers.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

It is officially denied that Count Beust is about either to retire or to be recalled from his ambassadorial post at our Court. Eleven new Hungarian banks, it is reported from Vienna, are to be formed, under Government concession, with a united capital of £7,600,000.

GERMANY.

Prince Bismarck, on the occasion of his quitting the Prussian Premiership, has received from the Emperor William the order of the Black Eagle, set in brilliants.

At the sitting of the Prussian Diet, on Tuesday, Count Eulenburg, in reply to interrogatories as to the late Ministerial changes, stated that Prince Bismarck had only relinquished the Premiership in order to relieve himself of some of his official burdens, and added that the Cabinet remained as before, and would continue to act in the spirit of the Imperial Chancellor.

The association proposed for the promotion of explorations in Africa by the Berlin Geographical Society has constituted itself under the title of the African Society.

DENMARK.

Baron Charles Frederick de Brixen Fineke, consort of Princess Augusta (sister to the Queen), died on Monday.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Folkething the Minister of War brought forward the new army bill, which fixes the annual estimates at 220,000 rix-dols. for the army, and 73,000 rix-dols. for the fleet, besides a sum of 17,000,000 rix-dols., which is to be distributed over eight years, for the construction of fortifications and ships.

GREECE.

The vacant seats in the Ministry have been filled by the following appointments:—Californas, Public Worship; Soterios Petmeza, Navy; Chailiciopulo, Justice.

The representatives of several great Powers have recommended Greece to submit the question of the Laurium mines to arbitration. This proposal is said to have been accepted in principle, though not yet in a formal manner, by M. Deligeorgis, the President of the Council of Ministers.

RUSSIA.

The Czarewitch may now be considered out of danger. The bulletin issued on Wednesday was very satisfactory.

The movements of Russia in Central Asia have recently been the subject of much canvass. From Berlin we now hear of "a plan with regard to the relations between England and Russia, according to which the sphere of action of the two empires in the countries intermediate between their respective territories in Asia should be defined in such a manner as to render matters of dispute impossible." From St. Petersburg it is telegraphed:—"An exchange of views has recently taken place between the Governments of Great Britain and Russia on the subject of the military operations of the latter in Central Asia. The Government of the Czar has communicated its plans with the greatest frankness to the British Cabinet, and declared its willingness to permit English officers to accompany the expedition, should such a wish be expressed."

TURKEY.

A telegram from Constantinople announces that the Sultan has authorised a loan of £25,000,000 sterling for the completion of the railways in European Turkey and the extension of the Nicomedia line in Asia.

AMERICA.

The President, in a conversation with some friends, stated that no change in the Cabinet is desirable, and he hopes that Mr. Fish will remain in office until the Treaty of Washington shall have been completely executed. He explained that the vessel sent to Honolulu was to protect American citizens there, and to see that no other nations obtained any undue advantages. General Schofield sailed on board at his own request for the benefit of his health, and that he might advise the Admiral in case of emergency.

The American papers announce the death, at the age of seventy-eight years, of Mr. George Catlin, the artist and traveller. He was celebrated chiefly for his eight years' sojourn among the Indians, in 1832-9, during which time he visited forty-eight tribes and painted the portraits of 200 chiefs and famous warriors. This curious gallery was afterwards exhibited in the principal cities of America and Europe.

Edwin Stokes has been found guilty of the murder of James Fisk. The crime was committed as far back as the 6th of last January. Stokes is to be hanged on the 23rd of next month.

CANADA.

The Ontario Legislature was opened on Wednesday by the Governor-General. The most important feature in the Speech from the Throne was the announcement of the existence of a large accumulated surplus, amounting, after providing for past appropriations, to more than four million dollars. A great portion of this surplus will be allotted for permanent local improvements, and a liberal grant is recommended in aid of immigration.

INDIA.

A Calcutta telegram announces that Sir William Muir will, in March, succeed Sir R. Temple as Finance Minister for India. The export duty on wheat has been abolished.

Sir Bartle Frere and his suite left Aden on board the Enchantress for Zanzibar last Saturday evening.

The King of Denmark has conferred the knighthood of the Dannebrog on Mr. Delepierre, Secretary of Legation for the King of the Belgians.

On Sunday the Pope received an Irish deputation, who offered him St. Peter's pence and an address of sympathy and support. His Holiness concluded a brief reply by blessing Ireland, and congratulating that country for the preservation of its faith.

As the Channel squadron was riding out a gale at Funchal, the ironclad Northumberland broke adrift, and came athwart the hawse of the Hercules, when both vessels received serious damage, especially the former. On Boxing Day they were sent off to Gibraltar, in company with the Minotaur. It is further said that the Sultan, of the same squadron, has been aground, and has injured the outer plating of her bottom.

There is one piece of intelligence in the mail last received from China of great importance. It tells us that on Nov. 1 an edict appeared proclaiming that "the Astronomical Board had selected the 26th day of the first moon of the next year (Feb. 23, 1873) as the auspicious day for his Majesty Tung-Che to become the actual ruler of his dominions, and the regency of the two Empresses Dowager would cease on that day."

The second part of the "Official History of the German War" has appeared. The first part, it may be remembered, takes us up to the end of July. The second stops at Aug. 5, the eve of the battles of Woerth and Spichern. It contains an account of the skirmish, or demonstration, or whatever it is to be called, at Saarbrücken, on Aug. 2, and of the battle of Weissenberg, on the 4th, terminating with a view of the positions of the armies on the night of the 5th.

His Excellency Major-General Guy, Governor of Jersey, at the Townhall on Monday, presented a reward of £5 and a silver medal each to Charles Blampied, John Bouchard, and Elias Whitley, who went off in a heavy sea about three miles from land and heroically rescued eighteen men from the Norwegian ship Isabella Northcote, wrecked on Perehos Rocks during a heavy gale in November. The sum of £5 was also given to John Pinel and his wife for kindness to the crew.

The first experiments by the Challenger in deep-sea sounding and dredging were made on the 30th ult., at about thirty miles from the Spanish coast. Soundings were obtained in 1125 fathoms, and a small live starfish, amongst other things, was brought up from that depth. On the 2nd inst. the dredge broke in 1900 fathoms water, and all the efforts to recover it were ineffectual. The Challenger put into Lisbon to take in fresh fuel, and was to leave for Gibraltar on the 7th inst.

The "Australian Handbook and Almanack," published by Gordon and Gotch, of London, Melbourne, and Sydney, is a convenient help to all correspondence with our Southern Antipodean colonies, including Tasmania and New Zealand. It contains all the details of current information usually required for business purposes, a colonial gazetteer, and a trade directory, giving the names of London shippers to those colonies, and of the colonial importers.

SPIRITUALISM.

"Is there Any Spirits Present?"—*Spiritualist Incantation.*

Alexander the Great is stated to have wept because he had no more worlds to conquer. Had Artemus Ward been near him the American humourist would have asked, "Why these weeps?" Mr. Ward would probably have proceeded to explain that if "the mighty madman," in his superb ignorance of geography, believed that there were no more kingdoms of earth to subdue, there were unearthly conquests yet to be made. In these days we are wiser than Alexander, and having solved all the problems of life and of society, having converted all heathens, having provided for the education of all poor persons, having agreed upon all the important questions of religion and of politics, and having brought back the Golden Age, or brought on the Millennium, we do not sit down and weep that we have no more glorious tasks to accomplish. We attack the World of Spirits.

"L'audace, l'audace, toujours l'audace!" cried Danton. Let boldness, however misdirected, have its honours. But at present all the other laurels to be won in our spirit-warfare may take their time to grow, for they are not likely to be wanted as yet. It must be allowed that up to this date the narrative of the campaign is nothing but a tale of the most ludicrous humiliations. What may be in store for us, who shall say? But if we win the most astounding victory that ever graced a conqueror, it will be highly convenient to obliterate the recollection of our early operations. "We play the fool with time, and the spirits of the wise sit in the clouds and mock us," if they are not better engaged, or too courteous for uncivil merriment. Not one inch have we yet gained.

To drop the military metaphor, and to ask a question upon a topic which has evidently been revived only because the times are exceedingly dull, what are our spiritualists about? We should like some better answer to this query than is afforded by their published utterances. A spiritualist, whether from excess of dignity, or from an unwillingness to descend to the level of ordinary argument, always writes with a certain restraint of manner. Now, we can understand this in a Jesuit or a member of a secret society, or anybody indeed who has a reason for being mysterious, but not in one to whom, if he speaks the truth, one of the grandest facts in the world has been frankly revealed. The spiritualist is always rather "round the corner." He will not use the language of mankind. Yet again for this we could find, we do not say an excuse, but a justification, if he adopted this manner throughout, and were not so painfully inconsistent. But while he enters into the smallest details, he avoids the largest. He talks, like a furnishing upholsterer, about his chairs, and tables, and sofas, but when you ask him what he believes to be the influence that has put these harmless and usually placid articles into a state of disturbance, you will no more get an answer from him than could the tutor from the youthful Pantagruel. We appeal to those who, in the interest of civilisation, continue to watch spiritualistic literature, whether it does not present a singular exception to the ordinary rule of fanaticism. The latter has, at all events, the courage of its opinions. But the spiritualists narrate to you a pack of alleged occurrences which, if they could be proved and then referred to comprehensible causes, would be of great value, but which no spiritualist ever attempts to marshal in their place as part of a chain of reasoning. A child's open-eyed wonder at the Christmas tricks performed for its amusement is a dignified thing compared to the attitude of a party of full-grown gables watching a kitchen table, and believing that it is made to dance by the spirits of the departed. The solemn and silly farce is intolerable.

We believe that the argument which worldlings derive from the character of ninety-nine out of a hundred spiritualists—we mean their mental character, for many of them are very worthy people who understand the affairs of this life, give good dinners, and allow no antics with the dishes, whatever licence may be allowed to the table—has given very great offence, but that it has been met in a characteristic way. When it is urged that the spiritualists as a body are either persons below the average of education, or persons who labour under a sentimentalism to which we would not affix a harsher name, we are met with a complacent smile, and are asked whether we recollect that it was not educated persons or those thought to be wise by the world that first embraced the faith which is now that of civilised nations. We are reminded that a question some 1800 years ago was "Have any of our rulers or the Pharisees believed?" The retort is a fair one, and so is the rejoinder. "Where are the wonders that vindicated the faith of the believers?" They, at least, did not darken their rooms and turn out everybody who was supposed not to be "in sympathy." They stood at the gate of the Temple in the sunshine, they walked by the open sea, they moved openly among their fellow-men, and there they performed the recorded marvels. We should hesitate to bring together two such matters, but it appears that a favourite defence of spiritualism is found in the fact that the doctrines of Christianity were at first confided to persons of whom the world thought meanly. The world was wrong then, but may be right now. Certainly there is no doubt of its thinking very meanly of the intellect of the spiritualist.

Sometimes we are told that the topic is an unwholesome one. Perhaps it is. But we do not believe that the discussion can do much harm, and we are sure that it will do much good. The display of the real state of the case refreshes the minds of honest and intelligent people; and as for those who can be tempted into the paths of spiritualism by hearing that it is the most idiotic failure which quackery has ever experienced, we think that they may be allowed to follow their morbid fancy with no great loss to society. We might not have touched the subject, but that it has been set going at this season; but we have no peculiar reluctance to deal with it. The pitiable floundering of the advocates of spiritualism has never been more humiliating than at present. Something seems to have happened to discourage them dreadfully. Their Great Pan is, perhaps, dead, and their oracles are dumb. This may be uncomfortable for them, but the world is no loser. For not in one single instance, from the time that quacks in America set the system going for the legitimate service of quackery—that is for gain—up to the last fit of the last hysterical blockhead who fainted because somebody trod on his toes in the dark, has one single revelation been made which has done the slightest good to an individual or to society. At this moment, when there are three or four secrets which, in the interest of justice, we all desire to find out, the whole army of table-rappers, mediums, quacks, and dupes, may be challenged to join forces and get one gleam of light, one whisper of intelligence, on the things which we wish to understand. The spiritualists complain that we would test their tricks unfairly. We do not want to test them at all. Those who profess to believe in them shall be their own judges. We will leave the matter entirely in their own hands. We ask the whole body of those who believe that they have access to the Spirit World whether one of them can tell us the name of the Coram-street assassin? Let them "rap" that out, and they shall exchange their present position—that of mount-banks—for that of priests of a new cultus.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Sir William Jenner has been elected President of the Pathological Society of London.

The subscriptions to the Mansion-House Fund for relieving the distress caused by the inundations in Italy amount to £6400.

Mr. Watkins was, on Wednesday, elected member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, in place of the late Mr. Henley.

The directors of the Bank of England, on Thursday, reduced the rate of discount from 5 per cent to 4½ per cent.

Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co. have sent a donation of 100 to the council of the Charity Organisation Society; and a like sum has been given to the society by Mr. T. J. Phillips Jodrell.

The Dean of Westminster on Monday night delivered the opening lecture of the session at the Working Men's College in Great Ormond-street. The chair was occupied by Mr. T. Hughes.

Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., has forwarded a second donation of £50 to the "Forest Fund" to assist the work of preserving Epping Forest for the people.

A very successful concert was given, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Monday, in aid of the Hospital for Women and Children, on Thursday week, at the Holy Trinity Schools, Westminster.

A fancy bazaar in aid of the funds of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum was opened, on Thursday, in the Hanover-square Rooms. It is under distinguished patronage, and at the inaugural ceremony the Lord Mayor presided.

The first meeting of the session of the Society of Telegraph Engineers was held in the rooms of the Institute of Civil Engineers, Great George-street, on Wednesday night, Mr. Scudamore, the newly-elected president, in the chair.

The *City Press* states that the customary Plough Monday dinner will be given by the Lord Mayor on the 13th inst., to the "household;" on the 17th there will be a juvenile ball; and on the 21st the members of the Court of Aldermen will be entertained to dinner.

Last Saturday evening there was a large assembly at Guildhall for the purpose of witnessing the distribution of prizes to the successful competitors of the 3rd City of London Rifle Volunteers in rifle-shooting for the past year. The Lady Mayoress made the presentations. About 600 members of the regiment were present under arms, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Laurie.

At the annual meeting of the Royal Humane Society, on Wednesday, it was stated that the number of bathers in the Serpentine last year had been 268,454. A number of medals and honours were voted to persons who have by their courage saved the lives of others at the risk of their own. The society has obtained permission to place a branch station and receiving-house on the steam-boat dummy at Waterloo Bridge.

The total number of paupers in the metropolitan districts last week was 109,941, of whom 35,783 were in workhouses, and 74,158 received outdoor relief. This was a decrease compared with the corresponding week of 1872 of 12,706, and of 40,435 and 44,619 respectively compared with 1871 and 1870. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 457, of whom 333 were men, 105 women, and 19 children.

On Wednesday the usual weekly meetings of the London School Board were resumed at Guildhall—Lord Lawrence in the chair. The advisability of establishing a scale of fees applicable to all the schools under the board was discussed, and the matter was ultimately referred to the statistical and school management committees. A letter was read from Miss Mary Carpenter suggesting other changes in the Elementary Education Act, which would enable the board to deal with the difficulties connected with destitute and neglected children.

The committee of management of the Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society, of which the Duke of Edinburgh is both the president and one of the first violins, has decided to give four private concerts in the Royal Albert Hall during the months of January, March, April, and May, 1873. The first of these private concerts is arranged for Wednesday evening, the 29th inst. Members of the orchestra and their friends, proprietors of the Royal Albert Hall, and honorary members of the society alone will have the privilege of attending these private concerts.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has resolved that Brunswick-street, Brunswick-place, Market-street, Portland-place, &c., Clerkenwell, be re-named Brunswick-close. Taring's-lane, Putney, to be re-named Oxford-road, in continuation of the existing road of the latter name. The subsidiary names in Shard's-road, Peckham; St. Peter's-street, Centre-street, and Felix-street, Bethnal-green; Milbrook-road and Barrington-road, Brixton; and Amersham-road, New-cross, to be abolished, and the houses re-numbered. The houses in Arthur-street West, City, not to be re-numbered, as requested.

Last week 2777 births and 1212 deaths were registered in London, the former having been 318 above and the latter 574 below the average. Four persons died from smallpox, 6 from measles, 9 from scarlet fever, 8 from diphtheria, 37 from whooping-cough, 25 from different forms of fever, and 15 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 104 deaths were referred, against 89 and 118 in the two preceding weeks. Diseases of the respiratory organs and phthisis caused 419 deaths (207 less than the corrected average weekly number), against 436 and 416 in the two preceding weeks; the deaths referred to bronchitis were but 160, against 277, the corrected average weekly number.

On Wednesday Sir Robert Carden, Sir James Hamilton, the Hon. Colonel Newdigate, Miss Newdigate, and many ratepayers of St. Marylebone attended, on the invitation of the committee of guardians, the annual treat of the parish schools at Southall, and thus had an opportunity of contrasting not only the new system of district schools apart from the workhouses with the old system, but also its work with the proposed "boarding-out system." There were present boys from various bands in her Majesty's service, and a complete band in the Queen's uniform was made up from the 4th (the King's Own), the boys being old scholars of the schools, who had been so well-behaved as to receive a letter of commendation from their officer, and permission to attend with their instruments.

A conference on middle-class education was opened on Tuesday, in the lecture-hall of the Society of Arts, Adelphi, Lord Napier in the chair. After a long and animated discussion, a resolution expressive of the importance of elaborating some plan for the examination of endowed schools was passed. It was also agreed that there ought to be a registration of private school teachers and schools. The conference was chiefly engaged on Wednesday in discussing the present system of the Oxford and Cambridge local examinations; it being contended that those examinations should extend to all the pupils, and not, as at present, to only the clever boys and girls of each school. The conference, however, embraced many other subjects of interest.

The principal subject of discussion at the weekly meeting of the Board of Works, yesterday week, was a memorial from the vestry of the precinct of the Savoy, praying for the construction of a new street from the Strand to the Thames Embankment, between Surrey and Villiers streets. The Rev. H. White, of the Savoy, headed the deputation, and the memorial pointed out the advantages of the new street at great length. The matter was referred to the works committee. A letter was read from Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., approving of the design for the new seats on the Victoria Embankment, which he generously proposes to construct; and adding that, if it was the wish of the board, he is willing that his name should be placed upon them.

The Marquis of Hamilton, M.P., assisted by the Marchioness of Hamilton, yesterday week distributed prizes to the little inmates of the National Refuges for Homeless and Destitute Children. The boys from the Chichester training-ship, in their smart sailor's dress, the boys from the Bisley Farm School, distinguished by their dark blue uniform jackets with red collars, and the girls from the Sudbury and Ealing Homes were brought to the refuge in Great Queen-street, and, together with the boys of the London home, treated to a substantial dinner, consisting of roast beef and plum-pudding. A large number of subscribers to the charity were present, and, when grace had been sung by the children, the ladies busied themselves as waiters to serve the 670 hungry little folk seated at the tables. When the dinner was over the children and the company went across the street to the Freemasons' Hall, where the prizes were distributed.

The annual treat to the little patients in the East London Hospital for Children took place on Wednesday evening. Each female inmate had in anticipation been provided with a neat little scarlet mantle, so that they looked like so many Little Red Riding Hoods. Those who were sufficiently convalescent to be out of bed were amusing themselves by giving their dolls a tea-party from some exquisite remnants of old tea-sets. Among the boys there was much the same sight.—There was another interesting gathering the same evening in the east of London. At the Spitalfields Sewing School, which Lady Burdett-Coutts supports, about 200 members of the Costermongers' Club and the Shoeblack Brigade were entertained at dinner (Jan. 8 being a far more convenient day to the costermonger than any day that might have been selected amidst the Christmas holidays). The Baroness herself, we learn, spoke for about ten minutes to the dinner company, giving some sound, plain, practical advice to these hardworking people. Lady Burdett-Coutts and her friends afterwards visited a night school in Shoreditch (one that the Baroness supports), and her Ladyship gave some marvellously good advice to the boys.

At a meeting, on Tuesday, of the Society of Biblical Archaeology—Dr. Birch, F.R.S., president, in the chair—two papers were read:—1. On some recent Discoveries in South-Western Arabia, by Captain W. F. Prideaux, F.R.G.S. This paper consisted of a carefully-digested summary of the history and geography of the country of the Himyarites, from traditional Arabic literature, and the safer testimony of the coins and bronze inscriptions collected and translated by MM. de Longpérier and Halévy. 2. On the Tomb of Joseph at Shechem, by Professor Donaldson. This was a description of the present state of that most interesting and well-authenticated antiquity, derived from a very recent visit to the Holy Land. The learned Professor believed that the actual sepulchre was in a vault under the present Moslem structure, which is considerably out of repair, and is in no small degree injured by the subsequent erection of two Mohammedan tombs, which are also falling into decay. In the further side of the building are two memorial tablets, and a third in English, recording the burial of Joseph, is about to be affixed by the order of the late British Consul at Damascus.

THE BOOKS OF 1872.

The *Publisher's Circular* has issued its usual analysis of books published during the past year.

The total numbers for the year are as follow:—Theology, Sermons, Biblical, &c.: New books, 570; new editions, 182; American importations, 30.—Educational, Classical, and Philological: New books, 348; new editions, 81; American importations, 10.—Juvenile Works and Tales: New books, 186; new editions, 43; American importations, 7.—Novels, Tales, and other works of fiction: New books, 463; new editions, 240; American importations, 36.—Law, Jurisprudence, &c.: New books, 68; new editions, 33; American importations, 25.—Political and Social Economy, Trade and Commerce: New books, 113; new editions, 49; American importations, 14.—Arts, Science, and illustrated works: New books, 373; new editions, 114; American importations, 46.—Voyages, Travels, and Geographical Research: New books, 172; new editions, 52; American importations, 27.—History, Biography, &c.: New books, 235; new editions, 83; American importations, 45.—Poetry and the Drama: New books, 272; new editions, 99; American importations, 13.—Year Books, and Serials, in volumes: New books, 269; new editions, 6; American importations, 12.—Medicine, Surgery, &c.: New books, 96; new editions, 41; American importations, 13.—Belles Lettres, Essays, Monographs, &c.: New books, 132; new editions, 53; American importations, 11.—Miscellaneous (including pamphlets, not sermons): New books, 104; new editions, 24; American importations, 9.

The whole number of books published during the year was 4814, of which 3424 were new books, 1100 new editions, and 290 American importations.

The clerkship of the school board for Llanrug has, it is said, been given to a lady.

Mr. Laing has been elected for Orkney and Shetland by a majority of twenty-five votes over Sir Peter Tait. Both candidates were Liberals.

Mr. G. O. Trevelyan, M.P. for the Border Burghs, addressed a public meeting at Kendal, on Monday night, on the occasion of the opening of a Liberal Association.

Mr. James Shaw, of Fenchurch-street, and the Moor Iron-works, Stockton-on-Tees, has presented £500 in aid of the funds being collected to build an hospital at Stockton.

It is stated that the political friends of Mr. Miall, M.P., intend to present the hon. gentleman with a sum of £10,000, of which more than £8500 has been already subscribed; but the *Leeds Mercury* says that the Bradford Central Liberal Club knows nothing of the proposed testimonial.

Last Saturday afternoon twenty policemen embarked on board the steamer Ajax, which left Liverpool for Hong-Kong. The men have been selected from the metropolitan police, and are to do police duty in China. They are to be paid £1 a month, and they enter into engagements for five years. They have received £15 in advance, to prepare for the emigration. About twelve months ago fifty members of the Edinburgh constabulary went to the same place.



NEW-YEARS FETE IN PARIS: THE BOULEVARDS ON A BAL D'OPERA NIGHT.

BY THE WAY.

Dr. Fraser, Bishop of Manchester, could hardly remain silent after the challenge of Dr. Vaughan, Bishop of Salford, which is virtually Manchester. The new Catholic hierarchy had proclaimed so boldly that Protestantism has had its day, and will follow other heresies down the abyss of oblivion, that his mitred neighbour was compelled to announce that Dr. Vaughan was mistaken, and to afford proof of the fact. Moreover, Dr. Fraser is never in the background when he has a valid excuse for pushing to the front. To do him justice, he has not only repelled the enemy manfully, but has carried the war into the enemy's country. After demonstrating that real Protestantism is as potent as ever, the Bishop of Manchester asks who it is that Dr. Vaughan would enthrone as the great teacher here. The Pope? Small time is lost in dealing with his Holiness, the propounder of the preposterous claim to infallibility. But who is the Pope? He calls himself the successor of Peter. He is not, for there is no proof that Peter ever went to Rome or established a chair. But, if he had done both, who was Peter? The least to be respected of all the apostles. The disciple who had not faith to walk on the waters, the disciple who endeavoured to interfere with his Master and was rebuked by the name of "Satan," the disciple who in a cowardly manner denied his Master at the question of a little girl,—what claim had he to found an infallible chair or to ask allegiance for his successor? This is plain speaking, at any rate. But we may take leave to think that if this sort of biographical criticism is to be applied, habitually, to the character of certain personages, the orthodox will not be altogether gratified. Is it permitted to make comparisons between such personages? The Wife of Bath asserts that "Paul's a sound divine," but then Chaucer does not invest that lady with all the attributes that belong to a religious expositor—we should scarcely select her for a district reader. And the Dons of a certain University will recollect the sensation that was made, not so long ago, by a German guest speaking disparagingly of "Paulus," and being erroneously supposed to refer to the apostle of the Gentiles. Let us add that Dr. Fraser denounced certain Ritualistic follies, and mentioned that there was only one "Queen of Heaven"—namely, Ashtarothe, the Moon-Goddess of the Sidonians. We shall look out for the rejoinder, which must come, and will probably be vehement.

We could not, even under pressure of a competitive examination, success in which should open to us the Premiership itself, name two individuals more dissimilar than those whom we are about to name. One of them is favourably known to everyone. We have some compassion, not of a complimentary kind, for those who are unacquainted with the other. The first is the amiable Earl of whom we once heard Mr. Sheil say in the House that he had taught us to regard Benevolence as one of the "Characteristics of Shaftesbury." The other was an officer in the service of his Majesty King George II., and the gallant personage was introduced to us by Dean Swift in 1729. The individual is to be pitied, unless he is to be envied, who has yet to enjoy for the first time "merciless Hannah's" eulogium of the "sweet gentleman." Perhaps the good Irish Dean never packed so much fun and so much malice into a single composition as in the case of "Hamilton's Bawn." Its hero was by his own account a blockhead and a bully at his school, whence he ran away after receiving a tremendous flogging for which we bless the memory of his instructor; then he turned highwayman, and robbed a poor parson. Lastly, he is exhibited as an ignorant, swaggering, ill-bred captain of horse; and, to complete the venomous malice of his painter, the person who admires him to adoration, and thinks his vulgar banter wit, is a silly lady's-maid. Yet on one point the Earl and the Captain not only hold the same opinion, but express it in almost exactly the same words. Mr. Cardwell, quoting Lord Shaftesbury, said, the other day, "His Lordship, one of the most eminent men in the country, gives it as his view that the Army would form one of the best schools for adult education." What sings the Captain to my Lady Acheson, the "skinny and lean"?

To give a young gentleman right education,
The Army's the only good school in the nation.

"But if your Honour had considered the case of Tobit?" suggests the pretended pedlar who helps to deliver Waverley from his captors. "Tobit," thunders the enraged and orthodox Giffilan, "Tobit and his dog baith are altogether heathenish and apocryphal, and none but a Prelatist or a Papist would draw them into question." S. S. the Pope may not be a Papist, as John Wilks declared that he had never been a Wilkite. But his Holiness has improved the festive season by reminding his Court of the history of Tobit, to whom he saw fit to liken himself. We suppose that the parallel was intended to be partial only. It can hardly be said to be very exact. Tobit was an excellent sort of Jew, with a sufficing sense of his own merits, and he greatly helped his fellow-believers. Now, the Pope is very humble, personally, and is always asking his fellow-believers to help him. Tobit became blind; but his Holiness, so far from ever being blind, is supernaturally gifted with an insight into matters of which no one else in the world can have the slightest knowledge. Tobit brought a false accusation against his wife, charging her with stealing a kid; but the Pope, as is notorious, never made a charge of robbery against anybody. Tobit allowed his defect to be cured by one of his children, who was by spiritual gifts wiser than himself; but we are unaware that the Pope ever thought that one of the children of the Faith could be so wise as the Holy Father. There may, however, be one parallel, which, possibly, the Pope might not be particularly eager to demonstrate. Tobit lived long to behold the great prosperity of him who had become heir to a large part of the elder Jew's possessions; and, instead of calling that person by evil names, Tobit blessed him, in very fine language, almost good enough for an allocution. On the whole, however, the comparison is one of that kind which Perrault described as "comparisons with a long tail."

Really the echoes of the Parisian *Jour de l'An* become a bore. Walpole tells a story of a Parisian lawyer being called into a French gentleman's house to make his will, he being extremely ill. The wife attended her husband, and, the document being signed, she and the lawyer had their supper brought into the room, in order that the sick man might not be left. The professional gentleman, who was courtesy itself, filled the lady's glass and his own, and, smilingly bending towards the couch, said, *Madame, à la santé de notre aimable agonisant*. English people have heard the wail over the *étrennes* system so often that they are inclined to drink to the sufferer's health, and then go on with their own quiet dinners. Who is it that really complains? The practice of giving extravagantly-expensive Christmas presents at the beginning of the year is ridiculous, of course. It must be, because it is not followed in England. Perhaps our friendships are more deeply rooted than those of French persons: anyhow, we find that the exchange of rather pretty picture cards (which might be indefinitely improved in conception, scarcely in execution) suffices to promote the generous emotions which the almanack ordains at given dates. But if friendship in France requires high-class cultivation, surely that ought not to be grudged, for doth not Cicero ask what thing can be more precious than friendship? Besides,

the ladies like the custom, or it would drop. Our matrons are too wise and considerate to permit household money to be fooled away in gifts to people we don't care much about. Even the husband's Christmas-box list, if he is wise enough to hand it to his wife for revision, will be very resolutely scored into, and the Boxing-Day mendicants will be very effectively warned off. The French matron looks at matters with other eyes, and perhaps from motives which it is not now convenient to analyse. But she is right to do as she pleases so long as she is allowed to do so, and when *étrennes* are put down it will not be by newspaper clamour. The bachelors make the most disturbance, and declare that it is a tax upon them for going to balls and parties. Let them stay at home and read and improve their minds. If they are wanted they will be invited, *étrennes* or no *étrennes*. But to give and to grumble is the "meanest thing out," as young ladies are reported to say.

NEW-YEAR'S DAY IN PARIS.

The celebration of the *Jour de l'An*, which is a great Parisian festival, has been noticed by our resident correspondent in the French capital; and there was no particular novelty or feature of additional pleasantry and beauty in the arrangements for occasion on Wednesday week. While M. Thiers received formal visits at Versailles from the foreign diplomats, and from the civil, military, and ecclesiastical functionaries of the State, a mixed crowd of holiday folk went strolling along the Boulevards, to inspect the vast supply of toys, trinkets, and sweetmeats exposed for sale on the booths along the edge of the pavements at each side of the road; and the serious tax which is levied by social complaisance upon every Frenchman's pocket, for the purchase of New-Year's gifts to compliment the ladies and children of his acquaintance, was paid with the usual alacrity, in spite of recent public and private losses. At night, too, when the customary grand masked ball takes place in the splendid Opera House, the scene outside that building, and in the adjacent streets, is as gay, as lively and whimsical, as can be witnessed in any city upon a similar occasion. This is the subject of a sketch which forms one of our Illustrations.

THE MAGAZINES.

To the grace and delicacy of Miss Thackeray's "Old Kensington" the *Cornhill* this month adds the more imaginative picturesqueness of a new fiction, entitled "Zelda's Fortune." The prologue places us on a Dutch barque, of the Flying Dutchman order, with a mysterious treasure on board; recommending in an English cathedral town, the story soon introduces us to life among the gipsies. The interest, therefore, is evidently intended to be of the romantic sort. "An Ugly Dog" is a pathetic tale, which may well be taken from real life. A paper on Brantôme gives a pleasant sketch of an author read even more than he is derided, whose place among writers is somewhat analogous to that of Charles II. among monarchs. Readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS who have appreciated the graphic delineations of the Imperial Chinese marriage which we have recently been able to place before them will find especial interest in Mr. R. K. Douglas's lively description of the etiquette attendant upon the ceremony. Mr. Douglas, who is an eminent Chinese scholar, has derived his materials from official ordinances some centuries old; but the recent accounts show that the ceremonies then prescribed continue unchanged to this day. Mr. W. G. Palgrave's budget of supernatural tales from the neighbourhood of Trebizond includes some fanciful and some grisly legends, presenting remarkable affinities to the folk-lore of widely-remote nations.

Macmillan has one really remarkable article, Mr. Lecky's reply to the views recently propounded in Mr. Froude's history of English rule in Ireland. As a Liberal, a Protestant, and a moderate politician, Mr. Lecky has the strongest claims to a hearing, and it is easy for him to expose the reckless intemperance in which Mr. Froude, apparently taking Mr. Justice Keogh for his model, has indulged to the ruin of a good case. We are, for our parts, less struck with what Mr. Lecky properly designates the "gratuitous offensiveness" of some of Mr. Froude's observations than with the folly of mooted the points to which they refer. Mr. Froude has sufficient common sense to be aware that, whatever the merits of the coercive system he extols, he could at this time of day no more restore it than he could restore the oracle of Delphi. Why, then, give a handle to disaffection by agitating the matter at all? There is considerable good sense in Mr. Wallis's survey of the history and prospects of constitutional government in France; otherwise, with the exception of the vivid local colouring of "A Slip in the Fens," the contents of the magazine are uninteresting. An idyll from America evinces little skill beyond a creditable faculty for reproducing the peculiarities of Mr. Tennyson.

The *Contemporary Review* opens with one of Mr. Herbert Spencer's papers on sociology. The subject discussed is the difficulty opposed to dispassionate philosophical research by the unfortunate tendency of human beings to feel as well as think. Mr. Spencer, it need not be said, is comparatively exempt from this deplorable weakness, and his essay powerfully illustrates his chief intellectual deficiency, his entire inaptitude for the concrete. The exaggeration of his not wholly unfounded strictures on the frequent inefficiency of Governmental administration proves, however, that his exemption from the emotional influences he decries is as yet hardly complete. The "three interests in Old English literature" signalled in the weighty contribution of Professor Masson are the philological, the historical, and the purely literary. The two former are much the most important. Mr. Knight's paper on prayer and Mr. Vance Smith's on creeds are well worth reading; while Mr. O'Connor Morris attempts a restoration of the ancient society of Ireland, as moulded by Celtic tradition and the Brehon law.

The *St. Pauls Magazine* commences a new story, "Mr. Carington," written in a more sensational style than has been usual with this periodical. There is something sensational, too, in Mrs. Haweis's "Hints on Ladies' Dress," with its saucy little *croquis* of various good, bad, and indifferent styles. "The Land of Hawks" is a graphic picture of the Azores. Mr. Greenwood's "Generous Money-Lender" is a forcible exposure of the cruelty attaching to bills of sale when given as security for usurious loans.

There is more speculation than story in *Blackwood's* "Parisians," and more practical than fictitious interest, in its "True Reformer." The latter tale, however, is very masterly, both as respects the sound good sense of its matter and the able contrast between the characters of the energetic reformer at the War Office and its easy-going chief. There is an interesting account of the recent synod of the Protestant Church of France, and the measures there adopted with the aim of enforcing a more rigid standard of orthodoxy—measures which we predict it will be found almost impossible to carry out. "Sir Tray" is a clever parody on the very imitable style of Mr. Tennyson's later idylls. "The Lost Secret of the Cocos Group" is one of the imaginative class of short tales almost peculiar to *Blackwood*, founded, as the writer

asserts, upon fact; or, as we should rather have conjectured, upon Edgar Poe's "Gold Beetle."

Mr. Froude, who makes so poor a figure under Mr. Lecky's criticism, appeared to real advantage in his reply to Father Burke's strictures, delivered orally in New York, and now reprinted in *Fraser*. Being, as it were, upon his good behaviour before an audience of uncertain sympathies, he has expressed himself with commendable candour and moderation, and the perfect success of his argument should be a warning to him never again to spoil a good case by peevishness or overstatement. The only other remarkable contribution is a proposal from Mr. F. Galton for the systematic improvement of the human breed by a diligent selection in intermarriages. We have as little doubt that this end will ultimately though tardily be achieved through the progress of scientific information as of the impossibility and undesirability of the very business-like scheme propounded by Mr. Galton. Many vital elements of the problem are as yet unappreciated, and hardly suspected. We are indebted to Mr. Leslie Stephen for an able exposition of Shaftesbury's philosophy. Essays on Thorwaldsen and M. Thiers are very sound and readable, but not remarkable for originality.

Mr. C. Bradlaugh, who contributes a few pages of self-vindication to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, has more need than even Mr. Froude to learn a lesson of moderation and forbearance to those who differ from him. Unpopular as his opinions are, he would seldom miss a courteous hearing but for his "gratuitous offensiveness." His tone is on the present occasion unexceptionable. Mr. Hatton's novel is as good as ever, and the miscellaneous contributions are in general very lively. Mr. Joaquin Miller's "Amazon" has at length disembogued its flood of glittering commonplace into the oblivious ocean.

To state that the *Fortnightly Review* contains an essay on Mr. Grote's Aristotle from the pen of Mr. Stuart Mill is to indicate that one of its articles, at least, is of great and permanent value. Value also attaches to Mr. F. Harrison's eloquent paper on the "Revival of Authority" in political administration, although the ultimate result at which he arrives seems somewhat commonplace. The real purpose of the essay, however, appears rather to be the discrediting of Conservatism in its modern aspects, as the great underminer of the principle of authority, which is unexpectedly, if not paradoxically, pronounced a Republican principle. Mr. Harrison's panegyric on President Lincoln is just and noble; but so pure a piece of good fortune as the President's elevation cannot be cited in favour of the political system under which it chanced to occur. Sir H. S. Maine pays a generous tribute to the merits of his successor's Indian legislation, concluding with the pregnant remark that the practical study of law in England has to a considerable extent supplied the intellectual want of systematic training in physical science. After these serious themes, it is agreeable to turn to Mr. E. W. Gosse's graceful essay, enriched with elegant translated specimens, on the Norwegian poet Ibsen, a man still in the prime of life, and assuredly destined to a European reputation. Ibsen's three principal works, here analysed, are too original to admit of ready classification, but may, perhaps, be best defined as dramatic satires, with a large infusion of the ideal element, somewhat in the style of Longfellow's "Golden Legend," but far more vigorous and profound. Mr. Swinburne has very skilfully adapted the quatrain of Omar ibn Khayyam, as modified in Mr. Fitzgerald's version, to the purpose of an elegy on Théophile Gautier. The only fault of the opening of the poem is that of being too fine for the subject—the descent from its magnificent generalisations to the particular instance of Théophile Gautier almost seems a transition from the sublime to the ridiculous. The latter part of the piece, as too usual with Mr. Swinburne, offends by penury of matter and parade of diction.

The *Month* has papers on F. Ozanam, written in too sugary a style; on Fernam Mendez Pinto, whose reputation for veracity seems likely to be rehabilitated; on St. Chrysostom, who appears to require a great deal of dressing up in order to pass for a Catholic; and on Anna Catherina Emmerich, the ecstatic nun. The writer has judiciously broken off before coming to Anna Catherina's revelations, but the tone of the paper, even as it is, is much below the ordinary intellectual level of the *Month*.

Temple Bar has an entertaining chapter of reminiscences of Winchester School, by Mr. F. Buckland. As befits a naturalist, Mr. Buckland enlarges particularly on the rating department of public school education. There is a good article on the autumn manoeuvres. "Roots," a New Zealand sketch, is clever and original.

The first number of *The Workman's Magazine*, a monthly miscellany intended for the reading of members of the Working Men's Clubs and Institutes, has been published by Messrs. W. Kent and Co. Its editor is the Rev. Henry Solly, late secretary to the useful association for promoting the establishment of such Working Men's Clubs. It contains, besides several essays upon important social questions, the commencement of an historical romance by the late Mr. Leitch Ritchie.

The *Transatlantic* contains two important reprints from American magazines: Mr. Parton's paper on Jefferson, and Mr. Coleman's "Fight of a Man with a Railroad," being the history of his protracted but ultimately successful litigation in order to recover damages for serious personal injury. Railway companies are evidently intolerable despots in America, and Mr. Coleman's concluding hint that the nation would do well to annex them might soon be acted upon, but for the corrupt Government patronage it would entail.

The *Popular Science Review* has an interesting paper on hallucinations, by Dr. Richardson, as well as other acceptable contributions.

We are compelled to pass lightly over the remainder of the magazines, merely acknowledging the receipt and the general merit of Tinsley, Belgravia, the New Monthly, the Dublin University, London Society, the St. James's, the Monthly Packet, Good Words, and Good Things, Beeton's Young Englishwoman, and the Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine. The Town and Country Magazine, a sixpenny monthly, which appeared and disappeared some months ago, is to be revived in February.

The Dublin *Gazette* contains a notice that from Feb. 1 next, twenty-nine islands on the coasts of Mayo and Galway will cease to belong to Mayo, and form part of Galway.

The Mayor of Halifax, Mr. Thomas Wayman, entertained at dinner, on Wednesday evening, in the Townhall, about 180 of his friends, among whom were Mr. J. Stansfeld, M.P., Archdeacon Musgrove, and the Mayor of Bradford.

Commencing with the New Year, our lively and amusing neighbour, the *London Figaro*, at the opposite corner of Milford-lane, now appears on the Wednesday of each week, instead of the Saturday only, and its Wednesday price is twopenny, instead of the former penny. There is an accession of dignity in this arrangement, for that popular comic journal, which seems likely to be well sustained by the character and value of its contents. "The Quest of Sir Ysinglas," telling how a knight of mediæval chivalry came to be measured by a modern London tailor, is a droll piece of humorous fancy.

THE CHURCH.

PREFEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Bell, Henry, to be Vicar of Muncaster.
 Benham, W.; Vicar of St. John's, Margate.
 Blomfield, J.; Vicar of All Saints', Ennismore-gardens, Knightsbridge.
 Collis, G., Curate of St. John's; Vicar of St. James's, Garlinge, Margate.
 Daniel, C. A.; Assistant Priest of St. John the Evangelist's Chapel, Montreal, Canada.
 Hammond, Joseph; Vicar of All Saints', Pontefract.
 Haslam, William; Minister of Curzon Chapel, May Fair.
 Hicks, E. L.; Vicar of Fenny Compton, Warwickshire.
 Hill, William Alfred; Vicar of Appledore with Ebony, Kent.
 Peile, T. W.; Vicar of Cannock, Staffordshire.
 Robbins, A.; Vicar of Beaulieu; Rector of Nursling.
 Sandys, J. E.; Rector of Babington, near Frome Selwood.
 Stenning, G. C., Curate of St. Mary's, Southampton; Vicar of Beaulieu.
 Vincent, Osman Parke; Rector of St. Mildred's, Bread-street, with St. Margaret Moses, City.
 Wyld, E. G.; Rector of Gratwick and Vicar of Kingstone, Stafford.

The Convocation of the Province of Canterbury will assemble for dispatch of business on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

A new clock, striking the hours and quarters, and showing time upon four large dials, has been erected in the parish church of Market Drayton, from Mr. Smith's clock manufactory, Derby.

The Rev. James Francis Montgomery, M.A., of St. Paul's, York-place, has been appointed Dean of the diocese of Edinburgh, in room of the late Dean Ramsay.

On Monday the Bishop of Chichester opened the schools erected at Brighton in memory of the late Rev. Julius Elliott, who was killed by a fall when on an Alpine excursion.

The Church of St. Martin, Coney-street, York, has been restored by Mr. Newstead, architect, at a cost of £2600. In addition to repairs, an organ, by Brindley and Foster, has been erected, and also a reredos of carved stone, by Ruddock.

Mrs. Childers presented, on Tuesday, the prizes won by the pupils of the schools in connection with the Chapel Royal, Savoy, during the past year. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Mr. Childers) made a few remarks.

No tickets will henceforth be issued for the services in St. Paul's Cathedral, as the whole of the church will be open to the public, except a small number of seats reserved for the families of the cathedral clergy. The west door of the church will be open, as well as the doors of the north and south transepts.

Yesterday week the Bishop of Dover consecrated the Church of St. James, Garlinge, Margate—the new and pretty building being crowded to excess. The Rev. George Collis, who has for many years been one of the Curates of St. John's, is to be the new Vicar. Another church, dedicated to St. Paul, is in course of erection at Cliftonville.

The Rev. J. R. Ellis, Rector of Westerdale, Yorkshire, has been presented with a massive silver inkstand and an elegant silver biscuit-stand by the parishioners of Kildale, of which parish he has had charge for the last two years and a half. The congregation and friends of the Rev. W. Cadman have testified their appreciation of his earnest labours amongst them by presenting him with a handsome illuminated address and a purse containing 700 guineas. The Rev. W. Cadman has just completed the thirteenth year of his ministry at Holy Trinity, St. Marylebone.

The Bishop of Manchester administered a severe rebuke to one of his clergy on Saturday. His Lordship said he had heard with shame and confusion of face of a church in the diocese in which there had been carried a banner on which was emblazoned the name of "the Queen of Heaven;" and he remarked that, though he was glad to see a revival of reverence, devotion, and piety, it must not be forgotten that there was a limit beyond which they must not go in imitating the practices of the thirteenth century. On Sunday afternoon his Lordship preached at the reopening of the parish church at Radcliffe, near Bury. In his sermon he remarked upon the position of Protestantism, and the claim of the Pope to be regarded as an infallible teacher, in reply to the observations lately made by Dr. Vaughan, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford.

On New-Year's Day the completion of the parish church of St. Mary, Ealing, was celebrated by a series of services. The first part of the work of reconstruction was completed six years ago; but the old tower remained an unseemly adjunct. The work, the completion of which was celebrated on Wednesday week, consisted in the erection of a lofty tower and handsome narthex, which runs the whole width of the west front of the church, and the rehanging of the eight bells. The style in which the restoration of this church has been carried out is Byzantine throughout, from the designs of Mr. Teulon. The whole cost of the work has amounted to £11,500, a small portion of which remains to be made up. Apart from this, there have been many special gifts to the church, including the reredos, many admirable specimens of stained-glass windows, the font, and others. An organ has been erected by Messrs. Walker, at the cost of £1000.

There was some inaccuracy in a paragraph contained in our Number for Dec. 21, respecting the restoration of Wells Cathedral, which is proceeding under the superintendence of Mr. Ferrey, F.S.A., the architect. At a public meeting in aid of the fund for the restoration of the west front of Wells Cathedral, held in the Chapter-House of the cathedral, on Oct. 9 last—the Earl of Cork, Lord Lieutenant of the county, in the chair—several resolutions were passed approving the work already executed, and numerous large donations were announced, including W. Gore-Langton, Esq., M.P., £500; William Gibbs, Esq., £1000; Sir Greville Smyth, Bart., £300. The report of Mr. Ferrey, under whose superintendence the restoration is proceeding, was read and approved, and instructions were given to him to proceed with the north-west portion of the west front, forming the third contract, at a cost of about £4000. On the completion of the work connected with the west front, the necessary steps will be taken for the restoration of the Chapter-House.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

At Oxford an examination will be held for the purpose of electing to five open classical scholarships, worth from £95 to £100 per annum; one open mathematical scholarship of the same value; and one open classical exhibition, worth £75 to £80 per annum. Five or more vacancies for commoners will be filled up after the same examination from among those candidates who desire, in case of their non-election to a scholarship, to become members of the college. Hilary or Lent Term will commence on Jan. 14.

The annual prize of twenty-five guineas for the best essay on a historical subject, given by Sir William Stirling-Maxwell, Bart., during his tenure of office as Rector of Edinburgh University, has been awarded for the year 1872 to Mr. Donald Ross, M.A. The subject was "The Results of the Union between England and Scotland on the Literature of Great Britain."

Writs have been issued for electing a representative peer of Ireland, in succession to the late Lord Clarina.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

PRESSURE OF AIR.

Professor Odling's third lecture, delivered on Thursday week, was principally devoted to illustrations of the force of the pressure of the atmosphere due to its weight, and the principle of the barometer, the apparatus employed to measure its amount. He showed, in various ways, how this pressure upon any surface varies with the height of the column of air resting upon it; thus the pressure is much diminished in a balloon raised above the ground, and increased in a coal-mine beneath its surface; and among the examples was the Cartesian diver, a small figure which sank or rose successively, as the air within it was compressed or dilated by pressure applied or removed from the surface of the water in which it was submerged. The force of the pressure of the atmosphere was also demonstrated by its sustaining a column of water in an inverted glass vessel with a card on the surface; by the Professor being unable to remove his hand from the aperture of the air-pump when the air was sucked out; by the exhausted Magdeburg hemispheres, which could not be separated without considerable force; and by the raising a column of water in a tube, which is the principle of the common pump. The Professor then explained the construction of the ordinary barometer, showing the way in which it had been proved that the atmospheric pressure is equal to a column of mercury thirty inches high on a square inch of surface, and that this pressure is equal to that of fifteen pounds to the square inch. He said our imperceptibility of this enormous pressure is due to the weight of the air being exactly balanced by the pressure resulting from its elasticity. The lecture was concluded by striking experiments showing the production of carbonic acid gas from either chalk, limestone, or marble, by the action of dilute muriatic acid; and illustrations of its properties of extinguishing flame, and rendering lime-water turbid by the formation of chalk, and especially of its heaviness, enabling it to be ladled from vessel to vessel like a liquid, and permitting bodies which sink in ordinary air to float upon its surface.

CONSTITUTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE—DIFFUSION OF GASES.

Professor Odling began his fourth lecture, on Saturday last, with additional illustrations of the fact that a bladder filled with air will maintain the same size, whether subjected to increased atmospheric pressure by being carried down a coal-mine or to diminished pressure by being taken up in a balloon, this condition being due to the density and elasticity of air varying directly, and the bulk inversely, with the pressure upon it. He then proceeded to exhibit some of the peculiar properties of common air, such as its power of supporting combustion, of forming brown fumes when mingled with the colourless gas nitric oxide, and of suffering the absorption of one fifth of its bulk by various re-agents. He next examined the residual four-fifths of his experiment, being a colourless gas, known as nitrogen, which was shown to resemble carbonic acid gas in its inability to support combustion, but to differ from it in its inferior density, and in its not affecting lime-water. Oxygen, the absorbed gas, the other fifth part of our atmosphere, was shown to be a still more active supporter of combustion than ordinary air, and to produce brown fumes more readily than air when mingled with nitric oxide. Among the illustrations was the vivid combustion of a steel knife and iron nails by the agency of oxygen. After commenting on the different densities of the two gases, of which our atmosphere is a mixture, the Professor entered upon the consideration of the process of the diffusion of gases, the way in which they mingle with each other. First, he showed that when light hydrogen gas, or ordinary coal gas, is placed on the top of heavy carbonic acid gas, the light gas will gradually descend and the heavy gas ascend, passing through each other. He also proved by experiment that there is likewise an upward flow of the lighter gases and a downward flow of the heavy gases through air; and that gases may also rest upon each other without much intermixture. These remarkable physical properties of gases, which are highly important for the maintenance of animal and vegetable life, were illustrated in a most striking manner during the concluding part of the lecture.

DIFFUSION AND EXPANSION OF GASES.

Professor Odling, on Tuesday last, began his fifth lecture by stating that although a light gas, such as hydrogen or coal gas, may simply rest upon a heavy gas, such as air or carbonic acid, for a time, with inconsiderable mixture, yet an active process of intermixture will gradually take place, the gases having been found to possess different diffusive tendencies, varying with their respective densities. Thus the diffusion-velocity of light hydrogen has been ascertained to be $4\frac{1}{2}$ times that of heavy carbonic acid, four times that of oxygen, $3\frac{1}{2}$ times that of air, and $3\frac{1}{3}$ that of nitrogen. This was illustrated by reference to experiments made with hydrogen and carbonic acid contained in bottles communicating with the external air by very narrow tubes, turned downwards and upwards respectively. As the rate of the diffusion of gases into the air is liable to be interfered with by jarring vibrations and alterations in temperature and pressure, the subject has been studied by making use of porous plates, such as plaster of Paris, instead of narrow tubes, whereby the aperture of the hundredth of an inch is not diminished, but greatly subdivided. The results of these interesting experiments proved that the relative times required for equal volumes of the different gases to enter into an equally vacuous space through the same septum are as the square roots of their respective densities. Inter-diffusion happens when two gases are separated by a porous septum; and when the pressure is unaltered an interchange of one gas with the other takes place in the ratio of their respective densities. Thus four volumes of hydrogen are exchanged for one of oxygen. The process termed "atmosylosis" occurs when one gas is diffusively separated from another, either into a partially vacuous space or into an atmosphere of other gas, when inter-diffusion also occurs. After illustrating these facts by ingeniously-devised experiments, the Professor proceeded to demonstrate the expansion of gases by heat and their contraction by cold in a variety of ways, and also explained the way by which it has been ascertained that, under a constant pressure, the expansion or contraction of air or gas is the 273^{rd} part of its volume at the freezing-point for every degree of temperature on the centigrade scale, either above or below that point. The elastic force of air at constant temperature varies directly with its density, and at constant density varies directly with its temperature. Among other examples was a shrivelled bladder, which swelled out to its fullest dimensions by expansion of the air by heat; and reference was made to the differential air-thermometer. Mercury in tubes was raised by heated air, and a thin tin vessel collapsed when the hot air within it contracted by being suddenly cooled. In the latter part of his lecture the Professor entered upon the consideration of the relationship between gases and vapours, the latter being produced at the boiling-points of liquids and also at low temperatures, both of which were exemplified in the case of ether; and, in conclusion, he exhibited what has been termed the "spheroidal form of water"—globules of it rolling about in a very hot silver plate which they did not really touch,

through the interposition of a layer of vapour. When the plate was somewhat cooled the water boiled and evaporated.

LIQUEFACTION OF GASES.

Professor Odling began his sixth and concluding lecture, on Thursday last, with additional remarks on the relations between gases and vapours, with numerous experimental illustrations. Liquids boil at various temperatures and under varying pressures, hence their boiling points are not fixed. The vapours given off from their free surfaces at temperatures below their boiling points are in a tenuous expanded state, and inferior in elasticity to the atmospheric pressure; but with an increasing temperature a more dense and elastic vapour is produced, until at length it possesses sufficient density to balance the external pressure, and ebullition takes place. The vapour of a boiling liquid differs from a gas, in its returning to the liquid state when cooled, whereas a gas simply contracts in bulk; but a vapour—for instance, steam—becomes a true gas when heated about fifty degrees above the boiling point, and may be called water-gas. This superheated steam by cooling becomes first a vapour, then a liquid. These facts led to the liquefaction of gases, both by cold and by compression, of which several examples were given in the course of the lecture. Sulphurous oxide, a heavy gas with a suffocating odour, was cooled down to a liquid by means of a freezing mixture of salt and ice; and in its evaporation it absorbed so large an amount of heat as to freeze water even in a red-hot crucible, the abundant evolution of the gas preventing contact with the hot material. The liquefaction of a gas by compression was first effected by Faraday in 1823; and the condensing syringe used by him, and specimens of various gases liquefied by him, were laid on the table. When Professor Odling drew off some liquid carbonic acid from a cylinder containing 5 lb., the liquid gas, by its violent evaporation, became snow through the extreme cold produced; and similar results were obtained from liquefied nitrous oxide, or laughing gas. By means of the snow thus formed mercury was rendered solid and malleable; and it froze water in the form of stalactites when placed in it. Among other phenomena was the remarkable circumstance that liquid laughing gas was made to boil when a piece of cold iron was placed in it, but was unaffected by the introduction of red-hot charcoal, which facts were explained in accordance with the principles previously stated.

The following courses of lectures will begin next week:—Professor Rutherford, M.D., on the Forces and Motions of the Body, on Tuesday; Dr. Debus on Oxidation, on Thursday; and Dr. E. A. Freeman on Comparative Politics, on Saturday. The evening discourse on Friday next will be by Mr. William Spottiswoode, the treasurer, on the Old and New Laboratories at the Royal Institution.

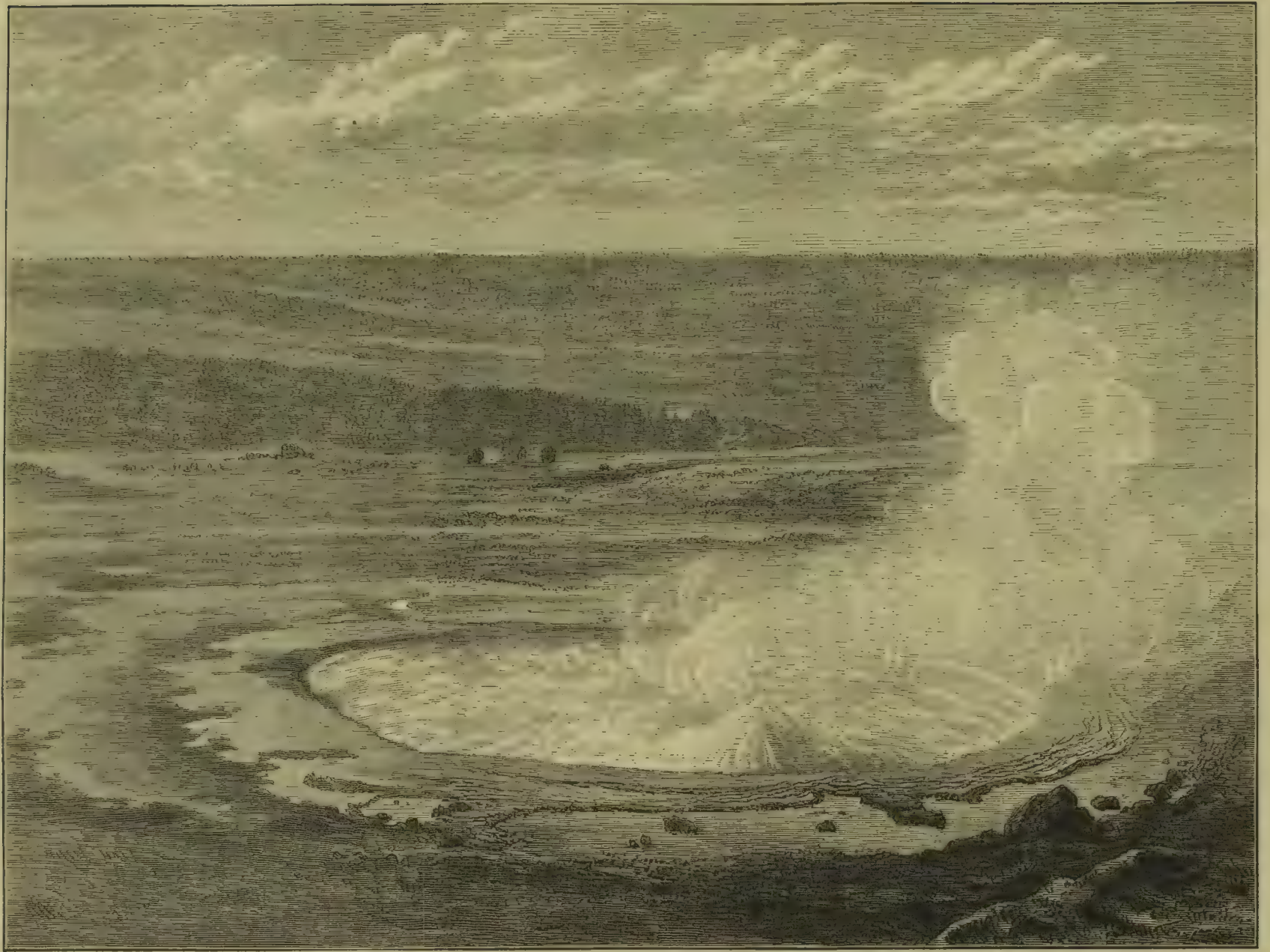
The council of the Royal Archaeological Society have accepted an invitation to hold the annual meeting in Devonshire, and have invited the Earl of Devon to become president. His Lordship has consented. Exeter will be the headquarters of the meeting, but excursions will be made into less-frequented parts of the county, and probably into Cornwall also.

THE IRON TRADE STRIKE.

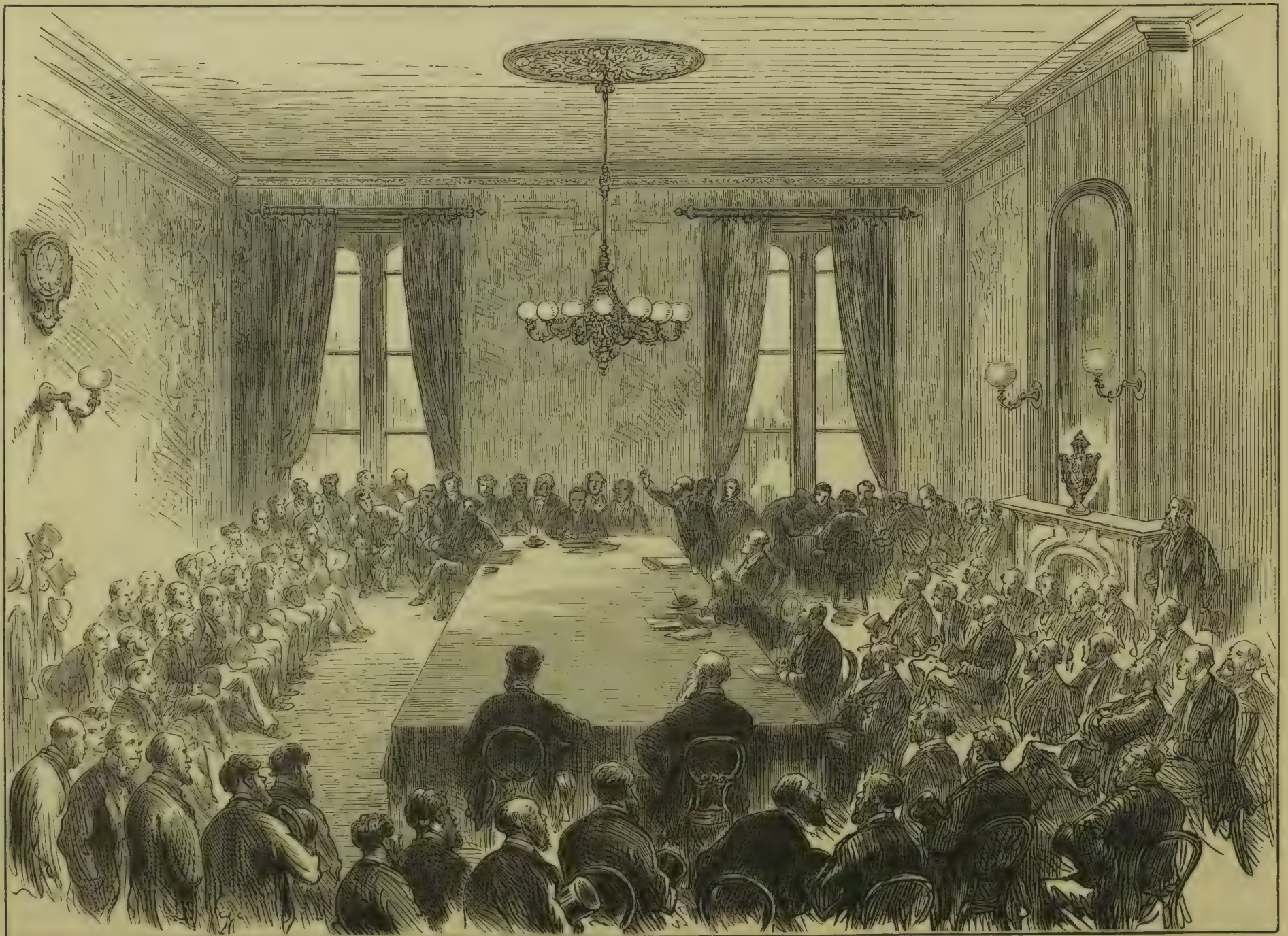
The most extensive strike ever known in the ironworks of South Wales, and collieries which are connected with them, began on Thursday week. Nearly 70,000 men and boys, one third of whom belonged to the collieries, have stopped working. Every large establishment in the counties of Glamorgan and Monmouth, including those of Dowlais, Cyfarthfa, and Plymouth, near Merthyr Tydvil, with Rhymney, Tredegar, Blaenavon, Nantyglo, Ebbw Vale, Blaenavon, Llynvi, Maesteg, and Cwmavon, has been closed for an indefinite time. The cause of the dispute is the refusal of the workmen to submit to a reduction of ten per cent in wages, of which the ironmasters gave notice on Dec. 7, and which was followed by most of the coal owners. The ironmasters allege that this reduction of wages was necessary in consequence of the state of trade. This was denied by the workmen; and the controversy went on, till it was arranged that there should be a conference between the masters and delegates of the men, to talk it over. The conference took place, on Wednesday week, at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff. Mr. R. Fothergill, M.P., accompanied by Mr. Crawshaw, and Mr. Menelaus, manager of the Dowlais works, who was in the chair, endeavoured to convince the delegates of the true state of the case. They refused, however, to submit the whole question to an arbitration. We give an illustration of the scene at this important meeting. It was followed by a mass meeting of the workmen, next day, at Merthyr Tydvil, when the proposals of the masters were rejected and the strike commenced. On Saturday evening the leading works paid off their last account. At Dowlais, Cyfarthfa, and Plymouth the men were settled with up to date. In every instance the cottage-holders under the respective companies were obliged to include in their last account the rent of houses for the forthcoming month, the medical relief and school account being also deducted. At Cyfarthfa works the number of persons paid off was about 4700. The Dowlais works also paid off on Saturday evening. There no less than 11,000 men were employed, and £10,000 per week paid in wages. The Dowlais Company in full fire keep sixteen furnaces in blast, whilst at Cyfarthfa they have nine in blast. On the other side of the parish the Plymouth Iron Company's works form a branch of the concern under the direction of Mr. Fothergill, M.P., and about 5000 men are usually employed there. The unsettled state of affairs formed a subject of comment on Sunday in the chapels. The preachers fervently invoked Divine aid to avert dissension and strife, to which the congregations heartily responded. The colliers of the Forest of Dean held a meeting, on Saturday night, and decided to assist their brethren on strike in South Wales. At the same meeting it was resolved by the Park-End Coal Company's colliers to demand the weight of their coals on the pit bank, as proposed at the termination of their strike fifteen months ago. The ironworkers of South Staffordshire and Worcestershire have agreed to go on working at present prices for three months longer.

THE OLD AFRICAN LION.

It will be remembered by the habitual visitors to the Zoological Society's Gardens, in Regent's Park, that among the "Great Carnivora" which they used to see fed with huge pieces of horseflesh, at four o'clock in the afternoon, was a grand old South African lion, named Nelson, with a copious black mane—one of the gentlest and best-tempered of his formidable race. This fine animal had belonged to the society's collection since March, 1862, when he was purchased of Mr. Jamrach, the well-known wild-beast dealer at the east end of London, having previously formed part of the stock in trade of a foreign travelling menagerie, which was dispersed in September, 1861. He was considered to be at least ten or twelve years old at that time; but some opinions gave him fifteen,



HOT SULPHUR SPRING NEAR THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER, MONTANA, NORTH AMERICA.



CONFERENCE BETWEEN IRONMASTERS^{AND} AND WORKMEN'S DELEGATES AT CARDIFF.



THE OLD LION OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION.

so that his age when he died would be nearly twenty-five. Nelson became feeble towards the natural close of his life, and died of mere senility on May 19, last year. His majestic hide was eventually purchased by a Lincolnshire country gentleman, Mr. Livesey, of Stourton Hall, near Horncastle, who has caused it to be preserved by Messrs. Ward and Co., naturalists, of 158, Piccadilly, and to be set up as the lifelike effigy which our illustration shows to the reader. The new process, invented and practised by Mr. James Rowland Ward, at his studio in Harley-street, Cavendish-square, is a great improvement on the old method of stuffing with various soft materials. Mr. Ward, in fact, combines the art of a zoological sculptor, or modeller, with that of preparing and arranging the skin, with hair, fur, or feathers, of the different beasts or birds subjected to his very skilful manipulations, for the purpose of reproducing the forms and attitudes of life. He first models the entire figure, in a patent composition substance, which does not shrink on drying, and in which he represents, with perfect accuracy, the position and action of all the muscles and sinews, as if to be used for an anatomical demonstration. The skin is laid over this, but with some portions of soft fresh substance inserted beneath it, where such additions are required, to show the fleshy and fatty parts of the body, and to be moulded with a view to expression. The whole soon becomes as hard



DESSERT SERVICE OF PLATE FOR LORD NORTHBROOK, GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

as marble. A group of two red deer fighting, entitled "The Combat," was in the International Exhibition at South Kensington last year, when it was greatly admired. The Old Lion, which may be seen in Messrs. Ward's shop, near the corner of St. James's-street, has a startling air of reality, and returns the spectator's gaze, apparently, with as much spirit as he used to display behind the bars of his den. He will be mounted on a granite block, under a plate-glass case, in the stately hall of his owner's mansion. Besides this chief object of present attraction, the shop contains many things of novelty and beauty, which it is a pleasure to inspect. One of these merits particular remark—the table-lamp attached to a scarlet ibis with outspread wings, in which the loveliest effect of soft oil light and roseate colour is produced, by the passing of some of the light through a natural screen of half-transparent red feathers. The plumage of other birds, such as the white egret, is employed in a similar manner; and the lamp-stand, with this elegant ornament, is so constructed that the lamp can be screwed off, and replaced by a vase to hold flowers or a silver épergne for the centre of the dining-table. Another curious application of preserved birds' skins and feathers is to give a dish-cover, for a game-pie or any such appropriate use, the appearance of a pheasant, let us say, couched in the dish; but this is rather whimsical than tasteful or pretty.

A VICEREGAL DESSERT SERVICE.

The Governor-General of India, Lord Northbrook, has got a beautiful dessert service, for eighteen persons, ordered of Messrs. Pellatt and Ward, of Baker-street, Portman-square. The dessert-plate, specially designed for this order, has a border of rich crimson, with a lotus flower, rose, and palm branches, composing the ornaments of the collar of the Star of India, arranged in a partly conventional form, and painted in natural colours upon an enamel surface, raised above the plate. In the centre of the plate is the Star of the Order, painted in enamel, with pale blue garter and gold; round the Star is the Collar of the Order, with a pendant, a jewelled cameo of the Queen's head. There are two large centre dishes, of a beautiful shape, each perforated, the bowl supported by three female figures, most harmoniously grouped, and with sheaves and flowers in solid dead gold. They have eight lower baskets, as pendants to the centres, each group of four representing the Seasons. The small compotes, en suite with the dessert service, were specially designed and modelled in the same style. In all the pieces there is a rich combination of the crimson with the Parian and the gold. Besides the dessert service there are 200 second-course plates, which are crimson, with embossed gold border, having the Star of India painted in the centre. The whole has been supplied by Messrs. Pellatt and Wood, from designs by Mr. J. H. Wood, being manufactured for them by Messrs. Minton and Co., of Stoke-upon-Trent.

THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" ON THE CHINESE IMPERIAL MARRIAGE.

(From the "London and China Telegraph.")

One of the most noticeable developments of modern civilisation is undoubtedly newspaper enterprise. Everyone is familiar with the circumstances which recently led the correspondent of a New York journal into the wilds of Central Africa; within the last few days the proprietors of a London morning paper have undertaken to pay the expenses of an expedition into Assyria to search for hidden records of the early history of the world; and to the owners of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS belongs the honour of having sent a Special Artist to the capital of China to sketch, for the benefit of the English public, the ceremonies connected with the marriage of the "Son of Heaven." In a country "where to take off your hat is an insolent gesture, and to wear white garments is to put yourselves in mourning," we ought not to be astonished to find Royal marriages conducted on principles the very reverse of those which prevail in Europe. There all is done in secret; here everything is public. The strictly-guarded gates of the Imperial Palace are closed even against "special correspondents;" and Mr. Simpson is only able to tell us by report of how the Emperor had to be disturbed from sleep to receive his bride; how Ah-Lu-Te, perpetuating the memory to the old-world custom of marriage by capture, bestrode a saddle on dismounting from her bridal chair; and how she entered into the presence of her lord carrying "a vase containing wheat, maize, rice, emeralds, sapphires, rubies, and other articles to symbolise all that the earth produces." But though at the palace-wall we lose all personal acquaintanceship with the Imperial proceedings, Mr. Simpson, in the vivid sketches which have appeared in the recent Numbers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, has enabled us to follow Ah-Lu-Te from her father's house to her future home. First, we have a drawing of the palace erected for her use preparatory to her marriage. Then sketches of the various troops of coolies bearing the nuptial presents in state; of the midnight procession of the bride from her father's house to the palace; and, lastly, a view of the palace itself. It is not too much to say that these sketches are unique as regards their faithful representation of life in Peking. The plates which ornament the majority of works on China bear the unmistakable mark of foreign execution. In them, for the most part, the more prominent peculiarities of the dress are carefully delineated, but the features, attitude, and surroundings are strictly European. Mr. Simpson, however, has achieved what only a very quiet and skilful draughtsman could accomplish; he has transferred to paper the Peking mandarins, soldiers, rabble, and gamins as they really are. We venture to say that the English public has never had such an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the appearance and inhabitants of a large Chinese city as is now presented to them, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Simpson's sketches will throw more lifelike reality into the very vague ideas which have prevailed in the minds of most Englishmen on the subject of the homes of the Celestials.

We regret to learn that Mr. Charles Lucy, the artist, is detained at his native town, Hereford, by severe illness, which will retard several important commissions he has in hand.

Lord Elcho has written to the Lord Provost of Glasgow declining to subscribe towards the John Knox memorial. He says:—"I am inclined to think that the Presbyterianism of Scotland and her freedom from Romish spiritual thralldom are more satisfactory memorials of the great religious Reformer than sculptured stone; but if any such be needed, we find it already in ruined Melrose, which, with its sister abbeys, bears witness to the vigour with which John Knox and his disciples repudiated and overthrew the Romish faith."

LAW AND POLICE.

The vacancy on the Judicial Bench, caused by the retirement of Mr. Baron Channell, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Charles E. Pollock, Q.C., of the Home Circuit.

Messrs. Drakeford Brothers, silk merchants, have stopped payment, with liabilities amounting to about £90,000, including £60,000 secured. The firm has been established under its present form about five years.

The announcement was made last Saturday of the suspension of Messrs. John F. Pawson and Co., warehousemen, of 8 to 14, St. Paul's-churchyard, one of the largest firms in the Manchester trade in London, which has been in existence, with a gradually extending business, more than forty years.

A romantic application was made on Wednesday to Mr. Woolrych at Westminster. The applicant desired, if possible, to learn the present situation of a person named Ambrose, who fifteen years since was committed to a reformatory at that court, and subsequently shipped to Australia. It appears that the friendless boy of fifteen years ago is now the heir to a fortune.

The young Greek who has assumed the title of Prince Basilus Gortschakoff, and who has been examined at the Mansion House on a charge of fraud, was yesterday week committed to trial.

Half a dozen passengers on the Metropolitan Railway were summoned, last week, at the Clerkenwell Police Court, for having travelled beyond the stations to which they had taken their tickets, with intent to defraud. In one case the full penalty of 40s. (with £2 2s. costs) was inflicted; in another, 20s.; in three, 10s. each; and the sixth was dismissed.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on Tuesday, Frederick Mann, a begging-letter impostor, was found guilty of having attempted to obtain money by false pretences from Lady Mary Price, of 1, Lowndes-square; and, four previous convictions against him having been recorded, he was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

On Monday, at the Marylebone Police Court, a tradesman who had neglected to have his child vaccinated was fined 20s., and ordered to pay an equal amount in costs. At Southwark a labourer named Casey was committed for trial on a charge of having attempted to murder his wife. At Wandsworth an assault upon a police constable was punished by three months' imprisonment, with hard labour. At the Thames Court there were two similar cases, and sentences of four months' and one month's hard labour were passed. More assaults upon the police came under the notice of the metropolitan magistrates on Tuesday. At Hammer-smith, for an offence of this kind, a sentence of four months' imprisonment, with hard labour, was passed. At the Thames Court an offender of the same description was ordered to be kept at hard labour for three months.

An extraordinary charge of robbery was tried last week at the Chelmsford Quarter Sessions. Charles Frederick Hammond, described as a well-dressed, good-looking young man, thirty years of age, was placed upon his trial for stealing jewellery and other articles. The prosecutrix was a married woman, who had met the prisoner at the Bethnal-green Museum, and the story of how he obtained possession of her property was a remarkable one. He was found guilty, and sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

Seven years' penal servitude, to be followed by an equal term of police surveillance, was meted out to Elizabeth Townsend, at the Surrey Sessions, for the systematic plundering of children in the streets. The prisoner resided near Kennington-oval, and it was proved that she had been in the habit of making excursions nightly with the purpose of decoying little children into courts and alleys and then stripping them of their clothes or robbing them of whatever else they possessed. She had been several times previously convicted.

A youth has been fined, by the Leicester magistrates, two guineas—in default, two months—for kissing, against her will, a young woman whom he met in the streets on Boxing Night, and whose dress was torn and umbrella broken in the resistance.

The Rev. Vyvyan Henry Moyle, Vicar of Eston, was again taken before the Middlesborough magistrates, on Tuesday, on a charge of forgery. No one appeared formally to prosecute, and Mr. Moyle's legal adviser asked that his client might be released from custody. The local inspector of police, however, gave some evidence which induced the Bench to remand the defendant for eight days. Bail was refused.

Two Manchester boys, bearing the highly romantic pseudonyms of Dick Turpin and Claude Duval, have been committed for trial on a charge of entering the church of the Holy Trinity at Platt, and stealing thence a brass rod and a prayer-book. On being apprehended, Claude Duval told a most singular story. He confessed to having, in association with several juvenile accomplices, committed various robberies, apparently with no particular purpose. Churches were made the especial object of such adventures; and the sacrilegious and youthful burglars would appear to have been satisfied with the fact of getting into the building and getting something out of it, without much regard to the value of the booty.

At the Manchester sessions, on Monday, two men, named Wetzler and Chapman, were charged with having fraudulently received

several hundred pounds by pawning sham jewellery. Wetzler had carried on his operations in London, and had agents in various towns. A large number of pawn tickets, representing several hundred pounds' value, were found in his possession when arrested, and the swindle had been carried on for some time. Chapman had acted as one of his agents. The jewellery was well got up, in many cases being plated with gold. Wetzler was sentenced to prison for eighteen months, with seven years' police supervision, and Chapman to fifteen months.

A young man named Froggart was, on Monday, sent to gaol for three months for robbing Hanover Chapel, Sheffield, with the Sunday school of which he was connected.

The Hull quack doctor, Henry Jackson, who was in the habit of dispensing "manna," "the elixir of life," and sundry other medicines with high-sounding names, and had fleeced a farmer to the extent of nearly £200, was tried, last week, at the quarter sessions, and sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

Edward Handcock, a butcher, convicted at the last Warwick Assizes for murdering his wife by stabbing, was, on Tuesday, hanged in Warwick County Gaol; and next day Richard Spencer, sentenced to death for the murder of Elizabeth Wharton, was hanged in the borough prison at Kirkdale.

The *Daily Telegraph* prints a correspondence which has passed between the proprietors and Mr. J. Winter Jones, as representing the trustees of the British Museum—the subject being an offer made by that journal to send out to Assyria, at an expense of 1000gs., for six months, Mr. George Smith, the decipherer of the tablets which have caused so much interest in the antiquarian and literary worlds. Both the trustees and the Lords of the Treasury, with whom they communicated, have cordially accepted the proposal; and an expedition to Assyria is in course of equipment.

At Devonport, on Thursday week, Commander F. A. Sergeant, of H.M.'s frigate Aurora, stopped the leave of the watch whose turn it was to go on shore, in consequence, it is said, of certain work which had to be performed not having been done to his satisfaction. This greatly exasperated the men, who went below, where they threw the shot about, unshipped the guns, hurled a barrel of tar down the hold, and knocked the lamps out of the hands of the guard sent to arrest them. They, further, threatened to throw one of the guns into the engine-room, and it was with great difficulty that they were restrained from carrying this into execution. Eventually Captain Douglas succeeded in pacifying them, after remonstrating with them on their mutinous conduct. One of the men on board the Aurora stabbed himself, on Sunday, with a knife, in five places. It is expected, however, that he will recover. On Monday the report of a court of inquiry into the outbreak was forwarded to the Admiralty.

The British steamer Sparrowhawk reached Honolulu simultaneously with the vessel bearing the American flag to represent England at the funeral of the King. There are reports of other men-of-war bearing up on both sides. Mr. Manley Hopkins, writing to the *Times* on the proposed annexation of the Sandwich Islands to the United States, points out the necessity that the islands should continue to be neutral as to all other nations:—"The situation of the Hawaiian group is unique, and most important for the world. It is the eye and centre of the Oceanic hemisphere. It is the pivot on which the new commerce will revolve. Honolulu is the refuge and natural entrepôt of national and mercantile energy afloat beyond the Atlantic. The islands are the stepping-stones in the pathway between Western America, British Columbia, Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Fiji, and onwards to Cochinchina and the eastern world. Great Britain, France, and the United States know all this; they knew it several years ago, and, foreseeing what was coming, entered into a mutual treaty that no one among themselves should be possessed of the Hawaiian Islands. Two of the assenting Governments signed the agreement, the third (perhaps from forgetfulness) omitted to sign it. Whatever may be the form of future rule there, or whoever may be 'the persons carrying on the government,' neutrality is an absolute necessity, and the making Honolulu a free port is a consummation to be wished for." A despatch from Philadelphia says the annexation of the islands by the United States is generally advocated.

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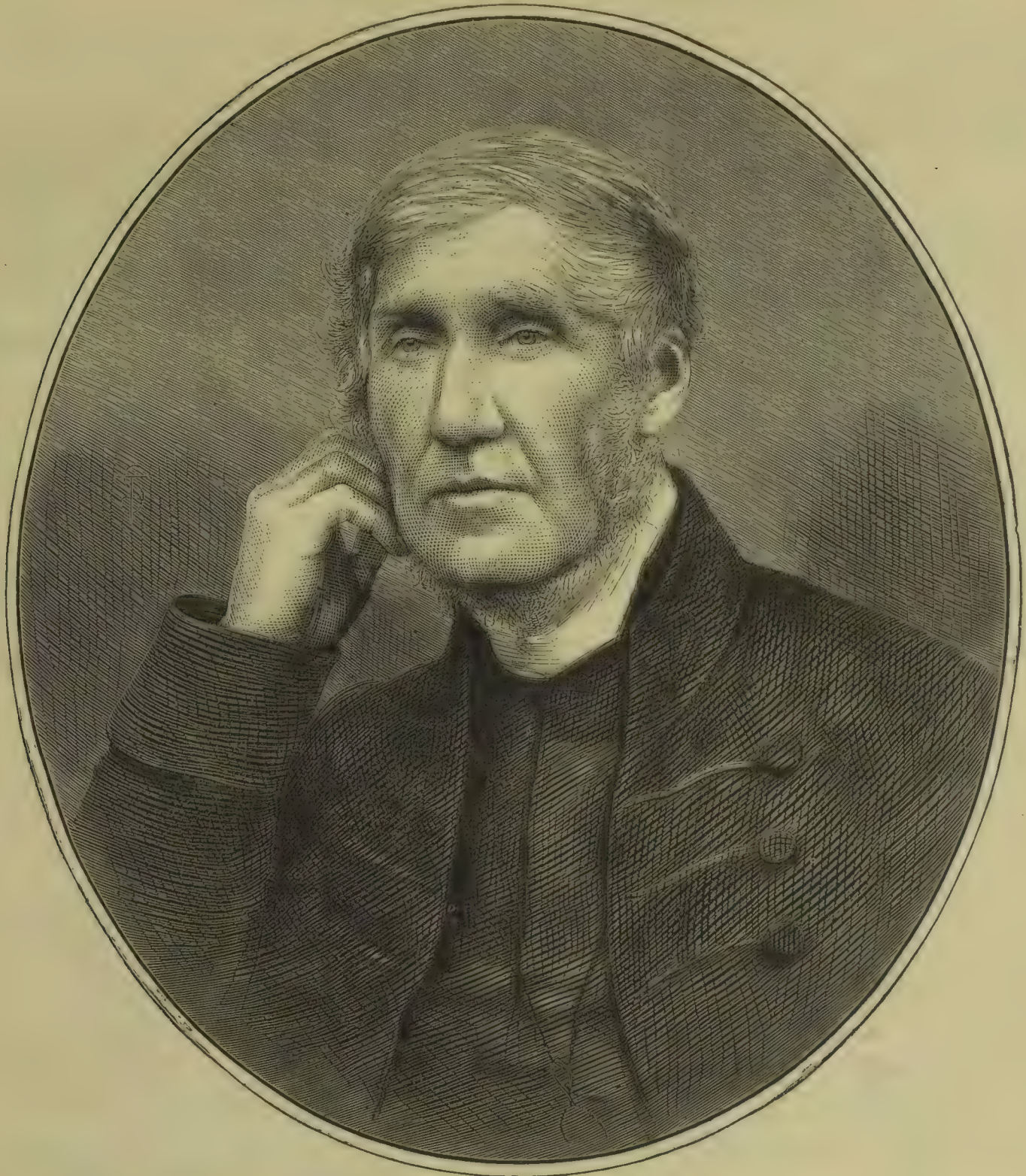
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CASTLE GEYSER AND HOT SPRING, MONTANA, NORTH AMERICA.

THE LATE DEAN RAMSAY.

The death of the Very Rev. E. B. Ramsay, LL.D., Dean of the Episcopal Church at Edinburgh, has been recorded in our Journal. He was almost eighty years of age, having been born in January, 1793. Edward Bannerman Ramsay was a younger son of the late Sir Alexander Ramsay, Bart., of Balmain, and brother of Admiral Sir W. Ramsay. He was educated in England, first at a school in Yorkshire, afterwards at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1815. The degree of M.A. he did not obtain till 1831. Having taken English orders, he was, in 1816, ordained to the curacy of Rodden, Somersetshire, and for the next seven years, besides discharging the duties of his curacy, he acted as evening lecturer at St. John's parish church, Frome. In the end of 1823 the young clergyman went to Edinburgh as curate to the Rev. Mr. Shannon, then incumbent of St. George's Episcopal Church, York-place. Three years later he became incumbent of St. Paul's Church, Carrubbers'-close; and in 1827 he was appointed assistant of St. John's, Princes'-street, under Bishop Sandford, grandfather of the Rev. D. F. Sandford, who has long been intimately associated with him as one of the clergy of that church. On the death of Bishop Sandford Mr. Ramsay was appointed incumbent of St. John's, and in 1846 he became Dean of the diocese of Edinburgh. About the time that he was elevated to the Deanery, the Bishopric of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, was offered to him by Sir Robert Peel, then Prime Minister, but this dignity he saw fit to decline. Again, in 1847, he was elected Bishop of Glasgow by the clergy of that diocese, but he decided again to decline the episcopal function, as he did once more in 1862, when elected coadjutor Bishop of Edinburgh. He married early in life Isabella, daughter of Mr. Rupert Cochrane, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and sister-in-law of the then Bishop Inglis, of that colony. There were no children of the marriage, and Mrs. Ramsay died fifteen years ago.

As a Churchman, Dean Ramsay was always the advocate of moderate opinions, both in matters of doctrine and ritual. Among other services rendered by him to the Scottish Episcopal Church, he was the originator of the Church Society, which has been of great use in improving the financial position of that Church and increasing the stipends of her incumbents. He was quite free from sectarian feeling; and one of the last public movements in which he took a leading part was that which has been set on foot to erect a statue of Dr. Chalmers in George-street.

Dean Ramsay was the author of a very entertaining book of humorous characteristic anecdotes, called "Reminiscences of Scottish Life and Character." It first appeared in 1857, under the title of "Some Changes in Social Life and Habits," as a small book of forty or fifty pages. Two editions were printed in this shape; but in 1859 a third edition, enlarged, and with a new title, was issued. So popular did the work become that edition after edition was called for until the end of 1871, when the twentieth was published, followed immediately by another large edition. The work is now out of print, and the Dean was engaged in revising the proof-sheets of a twenty-second edition. The sale of the work has been extraordinary, averaging 5000 every year since its first publication, which would give a total circulation of 80,000 copies.

The following mention of Dean Ramsay occurs in the Dean of Westminster's published Lectures on the History of the Church of Scotland:—"Is there any single ecclesiastic in Edinburgh who rallies round him a wider amount of genuine Scottish sentiment and brotherly love than that venerable Dean, who is an absolute impersonation of the 'reminiscences' of all the Scottish Churches; who, in his largeness of heart, embraces them all, and, in his steadfast friendship, his generous championship of forgotten truths and of unpopular causes, proves himself to be, in every sense, the inheritor of the noble Scottish name which he so worthily bears?" Such is the testimony of Dean Stanley.

Our Portrait of Dean Ramsay is drawn from the photograph by Mr. Moffat, of Princes'-street, Edinburgh.

THE GEYSERS OF NORTH AMERICA.

The exploring and surveying expeditions in the Western Territories, conducted for the United States Government by Dr. F. V. Hayden, professor of geology, have been conducted with great steadiness of purpose. Dr. Hayden, in 1868, surveyed the eastern part of Wyoming Territory; in 1869 he was in Colorado and New Mexico; in 1870 in the western part of Wyoming; and during the summer of 1871 he surveyed a belt of country through the territories of Utah, Idaho, and Montana, until he reached the head waters of the Yellowstone River, one of the tributaries of the Missouri, emptying itself into the latter after a course of about 500 miles.

The main points of the expedition were the Yellowstone Lake and the Geysers of the Fire Hole River, the head water of Madison River, which latter is one of the three forks that unite to form the Missouri. These points are situated in the southern part of Montana and the north-western corner of Wyoming Territories, and the nearest approach to them would have been through Wyoming, were it not for a chain of lava peaks, which descend abruptly on one side, rendering all passage over them impossible. For this cause a detour of about 300 miles had to be made.

In one part of its course the Yellowstone River cuts its way through volcanic rock a length of thirty miles, forming one of the most remarkable "canons" in the world. It varies in depth here from 1000 ft. to 3000 ft., the walls being inclined at an angle of nearly 80 deg., and vertical in many places. At the bottom of this deep gorge flows the river, of a bright emerald tint, boiling and surging as it rushes along. It is a succession of cascades and falls, each from 5 ft. to 15 ft. in height. The rocks are eroded, in the forms of spires, columns, and towers, of various colours, which stand out on the side of the canon. In some places the iron deposit of numerous springs has coloured them bright red; in others they are yellow, from the infiltration of sulphur. This, with the black obsidian, the white of the decomposing feldspar, and the green spots of vegetation, presents an appearance which words fail to describe.

At the head of the grand canon is the lower fall of the Yellowstone, 400 ft. in height and 100 ft. in width. The water, dashing over the ledge, is broken into myriads of drops, which throw back the sunlight resolved into its constituent colours. On reaching the bottom the water dashes against the walls of the canon as though impatient of imprisonment. The upper fall is distant from the lower about 350 yards. It is 140 ft. in height. Between the two the river is a series of rapids. Above the upper fall it is quite wide, and flows peacefully between low wooded banks.

A few miles above the falls near Crater Hills are a number of hot springs, some of them mud springs, and most of them impregnated with alum. In the small stream flowing from the hills the water is very strongly astringent. The principal spring is about 12 ft. in diameter, and resembles a huge boiling cauldron, the water being thrown to the height of 3 ft. It is surrounded by a collar-like rim, which is incrustated with a bead-like formation. In the stream running from it is an abundant deposit of sulphur. The water contains sulphur, alumina, lime,

and iron. Near this spring are some steam jets, which by the noise they make resemble a locomotive engine.

The geyser-field includes two basins, each covering about ten square miles, and filled with innumerable hot springs and geysers. The cones of the latter are of various shapes, and are composed of silicious material identical with that found around the geysers of Iceland. This geyser-field, however, far exceeds that of Iceland, both in the number of springs and the height to which the boiling water is thrown. In the "Great Geyser" of Iceland the water is projected to the height of 90 ft.; while here the largest geyser throws a column of water to the enormous height of 200 ft.; and in a number of others it is thrown from 50 ft. to 150 ft. About forty miles below Yellowstone Lake, on Gardiner's River, one of the tributaries of the Yellowstone River, is a remarkable hot-spring formation, resembling very much one existing in New Zealand. Here, however, the material composing it contains a considerable percentage of lime; while in New Zealand it is mainly silicious.

The Castle Geyser, which we also show, is situated in the centre of a gently sloping mound of the silicious deposit, above which its crater rises about 25 ft., fashioned like turrets, many of which are broken down, as though the Castle had been subjected to a bombardment. It is about 50 ft. in length, and is incrustated with a beautiful beadlike formation. The water gushes from it every few hours, making a great noise.

These are but a few of the many geysers which exist in this region. A complete and accurate chart was made of all of them, as well as of the numerous hot springs, one of which is in front of the Castle Geyser. These are of all diameters, reaching even 400 ft. Their depth is unfathomable. The edge of the spring is a series of regular scallops, and the sides are beautifully corrugated and incrustated. Looking into one of these caverns, the tint seen is a most intense blue, resembling that of the turquoise. The water varies in temperature from 110 deg. Fahrenheit to the boiling point, which in this elevated region is only 193 deg. Fahrenheit. In flowing away from the spring the water deposits iron, the bright colour of which contrasts strongly with the white of the deposit and the blue of the spring itself.

The United States Government intend setting aside as a public land reserve or national park all that portion of country containing these springs and geysers. When the Northern Pacific Railroad is constructed, it will pass within a short distance of this region, which will thus become accessible to travellers.

The Views we have engraved were taken by Mr. W. H. Jackson, photographer to the expedition. We shall publish one or two more of them.

FINE ARTS.

OLD MASTERS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

In our last article we reviewed the masterpieces in the Great Room at Burlington House, in which art is represented in the maturest development attained in the principal schools, excepting the Florentine and Roman, the Early Flemish and later Dutch (in cabinet genre), and always, of course, excepting the mural painting of Italy, in which art reached the highest manifestation known in modern times. Passing now into Room IV., where there is a number of earlier works, both of the Italian and Northern schools, it may be found instructive to trace the successive stages by which excellence that has proved unsurpassable was attained in so many directions. Here, then, the artist is the naive and reverent copyist—with infinite painstaking—of nature, but depending greatly on the precept and example of the master before him. We see that he is beset with all kinds of difficulties in perspective, and in interpreting forms, proportion, foreshortening, and relief. The picture being regarded as a decorative object, he freely employs the purest and most brilliant colours, and he also strives to render the picture precious by minute and elaborate workmanship. Colour being, moreover, an obvious characteristic in nature, he is the more disposed to give it as the prime quality. For the same reason the peculiarities in form of the model are seized upon as of essential importance, and are in consequence often exaggerated. His work is always experimental; there is none of the self-consciousness of assured knowledge and power; he has little or no theory of generalisation, little knowledge of the optical effect of distance. In all this conscientious, frank humility there is, however, a childlike charm not to be found in adult art. The ingenuousness is the more touching when the aim is religious, and it is rarely that the subject is secular. We may smile at the credulity with which the absurdities of mediæval iconography and legend are depicted; we may feel that Church traditions and ritual and precedent might have confined art in Egyptian bondage but for the Renaissance; yet the religious sentiment or expression of the early painters is one of the very rarest attributes of the more technically perfect art of later times, and cannot, under the totally altered modern conditions, be simulated without nauseous affectation.

One of the largest and most remarkable pictures in the exhibition and the painter's greatest work is "The Assumption of the Virgin," by Sandro Botticelli, in this room, from the Duke of Hamilton's collection. The comparatively feeble circular Holy Families by this painter, such as No. 166, and even the "Adoration of the Magi" (193), with its superior draughtsmanship and inventive design, do not prepare us for this most splendid of many illustrations of the same theme. As in Raphael's "Descent," the composition is divided into distinct sections, celestial and terrestrial. Below, surrounded by the twelve disciples, is the vacated tomb, filled with the legendary lilies. Matteo Palmieri, the donor (who gave the painter the whole scheme of the work), and his wife kneel in the foreground, and in the distance is the city of Florence as it appeared nearly 400 years ago. The upper section represents the zones of heaven, with countless figures arranged in each rhythmic circle on a gold ground—the patriarchs, prophets, apostles, evangelists, martyrs, confessors, doctors, virgins, and hierarchies. Vasari says that some envious persons, unable to attach any other blame to the work, charged painter and patron with heresy, and it was in consequence interdicted and covered from view. "The Circumcision" (162) is one of the few easel pictures, and perhaps the most important, by Luca Signorelli, the predecessor of Michael Angelo in the decoration of the Sistine Chapel. Other interesting early Italian pictures are a small work (190) attributed to, but scarcely worthy of, Fra Angelico, representing St. Francis of Assisi lying dead, with the brethren of his order examining the wounds of the Stigmata; "The Last Supper" (164), attributed to Masaccio—rather doubtfully, though a remarkable little work; "Peter and John at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple" (180), by Filippo Lippi—the architectural accessories somewhat similar to the background in Raphael's "Paul Preaching at Athens," and suggestive of how much Raphael was indebted to the artists who painted in the Carmine; and a figure of "An Angel" (182) flying horizontally, ascribed to Masaccio, but certainly, we think, by Mantegna. This brings us to a gem of Mr. W. Fuller Maitland's collection, "The Agony in the Garden" (176), an early work by Raphael, painted while under the influence of Perugino. The face of the kneeling Christ is unelevated in character, but there are many indica-

tions in the remaining figures of the "divine" painter's future feeling for grace and power. A portrait (192) of Andrea del Sarto, by himself, also deserves notice.

The early pictures by Netherlandish and German masters are likewise highly interesting. Here are Mr. S. Cook's Jan Van Eyck, "The Holy Women at the Sepulchre" (171), and Albert Dürer, "The Procession to Calvary" (173), which we noticed when recently exhibited in the Guildhall Library. The John Van Eyck is a wonderful picture for the period, painted with much of that depth of glowing colouring which is believed to characterise the rarer works of the elder brother, Hubert. Apart from the perfection to which the brothers brought their invention of oil-painting as exemplified in this picture, it is more advanced in other technical respects than anything of the time in Northern art now remaining. The Albert Dürer must rank as one of the most admirable as well as elaborate of his compositions. The numerous figures individually are also exceedingly expressive. An inscription in Latin on a cartouche beneath the design sets forth that it was painted by Albert Dürer in ash grey, without any models, in the year of salvation 1527, being in the fifty-sixth year of his age. The painting is not entirely in *grisaille*—there are a few tints of colour here and there; and the work is not executed in enamel colours, as inadvertently stated in our former notice, though the thickness of the impasto and the glistening of the varnish complete the resemblance to the productions of the Limousin enamellers—which probably suggested the treatment. The picture was recently purchased in Portugal, where it had remained unknown and inedited. It found its way there in the first instance owing, doubtless, to the connection between the Netherlands and Spain; many other works of Northern art gravitated, so to speak, to the seat of empire.

We come next to two portraits of Erasmus (178) and his friend the Antwerp traveller, Egidius (175), which have led to much ingenious speculation in the effort to identify them as the pair of portraits by Quintin Matsys which Erasmus promised in 1517, and sent, the following year, to Sir Thomas More. In the Academy catalogue—quoting, no doubt, the ascription of the owner, Lord Radnor—they appear as both by Holbein. Mr. Wornum, however, comes to the conclusion that both are by Matsys; but he fairly states the reasons (which appear to us extremely cogent) for believing that the Erasmus is by Holbein, and that therefore the companionship of Matsys' pictures has been broken. The painting of the Erasmus is so greatly superior to that of the other, alike in head, hands, and accessories, that we can hardly imagine the same artist could have produced them at the same time. Moreover, they are not a pair; the scale differs considerably; the faces look the same way. Nor do we see sufficient reason for doubting the inscription on the Erasmus "Joannes Holbein;" whilst the date, "1523," corresponds with the residence of Erasmus and Holbein at Basle. The characteristics, also, are precisely those of the German master, and render the internal evidence apparently irresistible. As though, however, to redress our estimate of the mastery that the Antwerp blacksmith acquired in painting—as though to show how far he could surpass the Egidius portrait—there hangs close by the finest, so far as we recollect, of the several versions of the subject known as "The Misers"—the replica (188) belonging to Lord Lyttelton. This remarkable work is richer in colour, stronger in character, and more complete in imitative realisation than the Windsor picture. We must not forget to mention the "Portrait of a Young Man in a Grey Striped Dress" (198), a small but beautiful and genuine example of Holbein, though hitherto, we believe, unknown. Coming to the later Flemish and Dutch painters, we have a "River Scene, with Cattle" (82), by Cuyp, which is almost as luminous as the National Gallery picture; a most vigorous "Boar Hunt" (80), by Snyder; flower-pieces by Van Huysum; and a few examples of the *petits maitres*.

By way of supplement to our notice of the works in the Great Room, we may mention that the splendid series of Vandykes also include a half-length of Queen Henrietta Maria (67), very refined, yet apparently faithful as it is subtle in character; whole-lengths of "Gaston, Duke of Orleans" (66); "Mrs. Car" (70), "A Gentleman Unknown" (71), and others deserving notice. "A Woman Making an Omelette" (92), in the early naturalistic style of Velasquez, shows by what loyal and lowly suit and service to Nature the master acquired that accuracy of perception and that certainty and rapidity of manipulation which seem in his later works like revelations of a sudden inspiration. An unfinished picture (86) by the great Spaniard—a very broadly-indicated sketch on a dark ground—lent by Sir Edwin Landseer, is also interesting to artists, certifying, as it does, that Velasquez grounded his work in masses; but it is not advanced far enough to either support or disprove the opinion of Burnet and others that Velasquez modelled his work with great care before giving those dashing, final touches which cause the whole to convey so fascinating an impression of mastery facility and lifelike animation. "A Lady Opening a Casement" (81), by Rembrandt, from the Royal collection, would be more exactly described simply as "A Lady at a Casement," for the person represented simply stands in the aperture. It is a superb portrait in Rembrandt's mature style.

We have further to supplement our former article by a reference to the works by Reynolds and Romney not in the Great Room. Those by Sir Joshua include another of the early Keppel series of family portraits—i.e., a half-length of Lady Elizabeth Keppel (88), wife of Lord Tavistock, who died broken-hearted within a year after the death of her husband, occasioned by a fall from his horse. Some later examples of Reynolds, executed under the pressure of fashionable favour, are rather conventional and empty. But the portrait of John Hunter (158), the anatomist, from the College of Surgeons, and the full-length of Mrs. Abington (3), as the Comic Muse, from Knole, are among the best-known historic portraits of the painter. The assumption of saucy, hoydenish assurance in the expression and gesture of the latter is very felicitously caught, and quite bears out all that we have read of the spoiled waywardness and irresistible fascination of the actress. The "Ugolino and his Children" (46) is but a melodramatic and superficial conception of the terrible story of the starved captives of the Torre del Fame, despite the flattery of the genial painter's circle of partial literary friends and biographers. Although there are no less than twenty-three examples of Reynolds, they are not, collectively, calculated to raise our estimate of the master. A few portraits by Romney are, however, exceptionally choice, and quite justify the contemporary judgment which divided the town between the rivals. The little-known half-length portrait of Mrs. Drummond Smith (16), seated, her face shadowed by one of the most enormous hats ever contrived by fashion in its most extravagant mood, the brim having the amplitude of a parasol, and the superstructure being built up of yards of silks, satins, ribbons, and lace, will inevitably suggest comparisons with the Hertford portrait by Reynolds of Nelly O'Brien, and the so-called "Chapeau de Paille" by Rubens; nor will the comparison be unfavourable to Romney. The tender, transparent cast-shadow of the hat on the face is rendered with colour as exquisite and skill as consummate as in either of those celebrated pictures. See, also, how cunningly

this soft grey shadow-tone is diffused over the powdered hair, and the pearly grey and pinks of the hat, which, notwithstanding its preposterous size, seems light and airy as a feather. The face, too, is the very ideal of pure and healthy English womanhood, free alike from the coquettish air of Reynolds's "Nelly" and the self-consciousness of Rubens's belle. More brilliant, though harder, and scarcely less charming, is the well-known Warwick picture of the Countess Henrietta and her children (26). How beautiful the sentiment of maternity in the high-bred countenance of the mother; how delightfully innocent and childlike are the gesture and expression of the sweet little girl clinging to her side! How indescribably lovely, also, is the face of Mrs. Carmichael-Smyth, of Aithernie, in No. 49! The examples of Gainsborough are very unequal. He never painted a face of sweetness more chaste, or of more mignon delicacy, than that in the seated full-length of Miss Linley, afterwards Mrs. Sheridan (35); but the face looks like a detached mask, so disproportionate is its finish with the loose, broad, and conventional handling of the figure and background. The "Rustic Portrait of a Young Lady" (53) has much of the graceful simplicity in which Gainsborough is almost unrivalled. But what shall we say to this lanky, feverish, attitudinising figure of Madame Baccelli, the danseuse (56). A little less rouge—seeing that she is not represented as before the footlights—a little more grace of figure, and some retenue, or elegance of pose, might fairly be desiderated in her portrait. A word of warm praise is due to the well-known portrait group of Sir Charles Cotterel, Sir Balthazar Gerbier, and the painter himself (14), by Dobson, which is not a whit inferior to his master, Vandyke.

The pictures by Crome in this exhibition cannot fail to deepen one's astonishment at the fact that such a painter lived and died almost unknown, or at most only enjoyed a provincial reputation in his native Norfolk. The wide range as well as greatness of his power is here illustrated. In the marine piece "The Yarmouth Water Frolic" (42), a number of the boats of the broad-bottomed build and the rig peculiar to this day to Yarmouth craft, drawn up in order as for a regatta, under a serene golden sky and a sea calm as a mirror, neither promising any chance of a race, Crome evidently measures himself with Cuyper, and if the Dutchman would have rendered the same subject with more effusive softness and greater delicacy of detail, even he could not have attained greater luminousness, whilst for force of impasto and masterly suggestiveness of touch the palm must be awarded to the neglected Englishman. "The Slate Quarries" (47) is still more rough and self-assured in execution. It presents a grand view from an eminence, of chains of hills rising one above another till they reach distant mountains wreathed with mist. A picture of moonrise (96), tranquil and silent, so to speak, as the hour, affords further proof of how wide were the painter's sympathies. A wonderfully daring sketch of "A Mountain Torrent" (20) is by Muller, another neglected genius nearer our own time, whom the Academy delighted to "sky." An extremely vigorous sketch of a wood-scene (8), lent by Sir Henry Thompson, is attributed rather questionably to Constable. Blake's illustration of "The Bard," by Gray (196), is one of the wildest imaginings of the half-crazed poet-painter. Lastly, we have three noble Turners—Mr. Bicknell's "Ivy Bridge, Devonshire" (12), full of tender and beautiful shadow tones; Mr. Heugh's "Dunstanborough Castle," solemn and impressive; and "The Lock and the Mill" (69), a gorgeous piece of sunniness, belonging to the same benevolent owner.

The sculpture and water-colour drawings we must reserve for a future article.

Mr. G. W. Reid, F.S.A., the Keeper of the Prints and Drawings in the British Museum, is about to publish a history of the department in his charge, containing a classified summary of the contents of the print-room, accompanied by brief memoirs of the principal donors and former keepers. The promised work will supply a want that has long been felt. The treasures of this section of the Museum are appreciated by connoisseurs and students; but the collection is not nearly so well known as from its importance it deserves to be. The credit of suggesting Mr. Reid's work is due, we understand, to Mr. J. H. Anderson, the eminent collector, and himself a liberal donor to the print-room.

MUSIC.

The early days of the new year, in their musical aspect, offer but little for notice, as the Christmas festivities of 1872 have continued, as usual, to engross public attention.

The first musical performance of the year was the repetition of "The Messiah," given at the Royal Albert Hall on Jan. 2.

Next in order of date was the commencement of the seventh season of the "London Ballad Concerts," at St. James's Hall, on Saturday afternoon last, when an overwhelming audience was attracted by the announced programme, including the promised performance of Mr. Sims Reeves. This and the other promises made by Mr. John Boosey, the director of these successful entertainments, were strictly fulfilled, to the thorough enjoyment and satisfaction of the large numbers by whom every available place in the concert-room was occupied soon after the opening of the doors—many of those who were not previously furnished with tickets having, therefore, been unable to procure admission. Mr. Reeves has seldom sung with greater effect than on the occasion now referred to, when he gave Mr. A. Scott Gatty's expressive song "Eleonora," Mr. Sullivan's graceful "Once again," and Dibdin's robust nautical ballad "Tom Bowling," with that admirable discrimination of very opposite styles which is one of the many distinguishing qualities of this great artist. The last verse of Mr. Gatty's song had to be repeated, and "Tom Bowling" produced the marked effect which almost invariably follows its delivery by Mr. Reeves, who replied to the encore which followed by singing "Good-bye, sweetheart." Miss Wynne in Mr. Molloy's "So the story goes," Mr. Maynard's "Lovers' vows are not all truth," and Moore's "Rich and rare;" Madame Patey in Blumenthal's song "The sailor boy's farewell," Mr. A. S. Gatty's "Voices of the Past," and the Scotch ballad "Ye banks and braes;" the two ladies associated in Bishop's duet "As it fell upon a day;" and Mr. Santley in Mr. Hatton's song "The Bells," Mr. Molloy's "The Vagabond," and Prince Poniatowski's "The Yeoman's Wedding," contributed important features to the entertainment. Besides these performances, several songs and ballads were effectively given by Miss Percival and Mr. Nordblom, some part-songs were sung by the "London Orpheus Quartet," and Mdlle. Elvira del Bianco played two brilliant pianoforte pieces. Mr. Hatton and Mr. Meyer Lutz conducted. A similar performance was announced for this (Saturday) afternoon, and the remaining eight concerts of the series will take place on Wednesday evenings, beginning next week.

The third concert of the "British Orchestral Society" took place on Thursday evening. "Elijah" was to be given by the Sacred Harmonic Society last (Friday) night. The Monday Popular Concerts are to be resumed next week, and those at the Crystal Palace on the following Saturday. The Italian Opera Company engaged at St. George's Hall, Langham-place,

has been alternating repetitions of their performances already noticed—"Il Conte Ory," "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," and "L'Elisir d'Amore." Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte" was promised for this (Saturday) evening.

Performances of the several institutions just named will form the staple of London music for some weeks, until the reopening of our two great Italian opera establishments and the Philharmonic concerts shall divert the chief public attention in those directions.

Many interesting reminiscences of bygone days are called up by the two volumes of *Musical Recollections of the Last Half Century*, recently published by Messrs. Tinsley Brothers. The anonymous author of this work avows himself, in his preface, to be—as regards music—a "laudator temporis acti;" and seeks by these reminiscences to justify this tendency and to prove that "England deserves a place amongst all those other nations wherein music has been fostered and cultivated." The writer, however, admits that "the present race of composers is not to be compared with our predecessors, even within the 'recollections of the last fifty years;' and, further on, that solo singers 'nowadays rush before the public ere their style is formed, their voices settled, or their education completed.'" The book is a revised edition of papers which appeared recently, from month to month, in *Tinsley's Magazine*, and begins with an introductory essay giving a rapid sketch of the antecedents of musical history, and leading up to the date (1817) of the commencement of the author's records. These open with juvenile recollections of Bartleman, Mrs. Salmon, Mara, Billington, and other celebrated vocalists, English and foreign; and the record is carried through each succeeding year up to the completion of the promised period, including facts and opinions connected with the artists and performances that occurred therein. The volumes will interest those who wish for half a century's retrospective glance at the condition of music in England.

Of a similar nature to the book just mentioned, but more limited in design and extent, is the volume (published by Messrs. Longmans) entitled *Musical Criticism and Biography*—a selection from the published and unpublished writings of Thomas Damant Eaton, late president of the Norwich Choral Society, edited by his sons. The work commences with two colloquies of the dead (from the "Anglo-Saxon" of 1850), the first entitled "Convivium Musicum," in which an imaginary conversation is carried on by Dr. Arne, Jackson (of Exeter), and Shield; the second, "Convivium Religiosum," brings forward in a similar manner the less familiar names of Drs. Beekwith and Chard and the Rev. W. Jones. Under these supposed personalities various opinions relating to English music, practical and theoretical, are discussed in a pleasant conversational style, according to the peculiar views of the disputants. These papers are followed by remarks on Haydn's "Creation" and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus;" and the remainder of the first, or critical, portion of the volume consists of articles extracted from the *Norfolk News* and the *Musical Standard* from 1851 to 1870. The biographies are those of the late Mr. George Perry and Professor Taylor, the admirers and friends of whom will find details of the careers of those musicians that will doubtless interest such readers. Other articles, including two on bells, complete the volume.

Musical students will find much to interest and, in many cases, to instruct, them in *The Harmony of Sounds*, by Dr. Henry Hiles, who has here put forth a treatise, compendious in form but ample in contents, on the most important theoretical points of the art. The author's endeavour has been, as stated in his preface, "to render each chapter complete in itself, and exhaustive of the subject; and, where this has been incompatible with the preservation of an easy and a continuous course of study, to aid the progress of the reader as much as possible by copious references to paragraphs in which are given full explanations of the terms used." This object has been well attained in a series of chapters respectively treating of "Sound," "Consonance," "Key-Relationship—Scales," "Temperament," "Consonant-Chords of the Key," "Consecutions," "Rhythm," "General Laws of Discords," "Minor Sevenths," "Ninths," "Elevenths," "Thirteenth," "General Laws of Discords," "Pedal Sounds," and "Modulations." On all these subjects the author writes like a thoughtful and cultivated musician, and his remarks are rendered additionally interesting and valuable by frequent illustrative quotations from classical compositions. Dr. Hiles's work is published by Messrs. Metzler and Co.

THEATRES.

RESUME.

Among the varied contents of the *Era Almanack* for 1873—a work that teems with information for all who are connected with theatrical business—there is a list of the new pieces produced at the London theatres during the past year. These we find have been no fewer than 177, averaging more than three new dramas weekly during the year. Probably a larger number is not desirable, and one would think that this amount of employment would occupy nearly all the talent of the country. But the question is, How many of these are likely to live, and how many of a better sort have been rejected? As a rule, this latter class comprises nearly all that have not been pre-ordered by managements. It is almost a hopeless task for an individual selecting a subject for himself and working it out on his own plan to obtain acceptance for its production, however good. The room is simply preoccupied, and he is regarded as an amateur whose claims have scarcely any right to consideration. What are the merits of those plays contained in the list we have mentioned? Of the majority of pieces, infinitesimally small, we are, indeed, surprised at the very few that deserve the slightest attention. Many of them are, in fact, Christmas pantomimes, and lay claim to no literary standing; others are burlesques, which scarcely have any independent existence, and are jobbed by a few writers who affect eccentricity. Leaving out these, let us cast our eyes over the list and select the more prominent works, or those that have secured a share of popularity. We will take them in their order:—

Elfie; or, The Cherry Tree Inn, by Boucicault (Gaiety).
Pygmalion and Galatea, by Gilbert (Haymarket).
On the Jury, by Watts Phillips (Princess's).
Nobody's Fortune, by Gratton (Surrey).
A Life Race, by Miss Evelyn (Alfred).
Forgiven, by Albery (Globe).
Broken Spells, by Marston and Wills (Court).
Hilda, by Halliday (Adelphi).
Haunted Houses, by Byron (Princess's).
Shilly-Shally, by Rende and Trollope (Gaiety).
Ordeal by Touch, by Lee (Queen's).
The Undergraduate, by Freund (Queen's).
Dead or Alive, by Taylor (Queen's).
Babil and Bijou, by Boucicault and Planché (Covent Garden).
Good News, by Byron (Gaiety).
A Son of the Soil, by Merivale (Court).
The Lady of the Lake, by Halliday (Drury Lane).
Charles I., by Wills (Lycum).
Amos Clark, by Watts Phillips (Queen's).
False Shame, by Frank Marshall (Globe).

Here, then, is a score of dramas that, during the last year, have struggled into notice; of which, however, more than one half have scarcely "a name to live." Still fewer are likely to survive their original run, whether long or short, and to take a

permanent rank in literature. Many of them will never be printed, or repay the expense of publication. Most of them were, indeed, written for a temporary purpose, and served it but inadequately. Only two or three stand out as possessing any literary value whatever; the majority are the work of playwrights, not of dramatists, or authors.

Besides the new pieces produced in London, nearly a hundred have been produced in the provinces. Of these, "Marlborough," by Philips, produced at Brighton, may have merit, but the rest are not promising. This view, we confess, would be a dreary one, were we not convinced that there is a reserve which has not yet been brought to the fore; a mine of original genius which has never yet been worked. Our list does not include "Cromwell" and some other pieces produced since November; but the play we have mentioned shows there is dramatic genius, though not yet associated with certain mechanical facilities, which can only be gained by practice. Mr. G. Rignold may congratulate himself on having been its representative. Other plays on the same subject exist, one in particular of uncommon merit, which have not yet attained the boards. On other subjects, many plays of a fine order have long pleaded in vain for adequate embodiment. How difficult it is to gain this for any play of exceptional merit they only know who have made frequent trial. New companies of far sterner materials than what compose existing ones must be found before a work of real genius can be even decently represented. Meanwhile the acting art degenerates, for want of opportunity to excel in the higher qualities; and thus, day by day, the difficulty increases. Mediocrity takes the place of excellence, and genius perishes of neglect.

We have not included in our list the dramas of Sir Charles Young, such as "Montcalm" and "Miss Chester," because these dramas are not of the class patronised by theatres; but we may note that in kind they are higher than the general run of plays, though in degree they may be still wanting in the perfect finish required. But the author is aware that the art in its profession is progressive, and will, it is to be hoped, finally achieve an enduring reputation.

HAYMARKET.

Among those who have made a sincere effort to maintain the dignity of the stage must be mentioned Mr. W. S. Gilbert, who has elected to compose blank-verse fairy tales for the boards. His "Pygmalion and Galatea," after a run of nearly 250 nights, has given place to a new and "entirely original" fairy comedy, entitled "The Wicked World," which is likely to meet with similar success. The wicked world intended is our own planet, as viewed by a cloud-colony of fairies, who look down upon it as the abode of sinners, with wonder and curiosity, being themselves impeccable beings. They long for information, and at length find the means of obtaining it. An ingenious device is invented, as stated in the following lines:—

Yes, on that world—that very wicked world—
Thou—I—and all who dwell in Fairyland
May find a parallel identity;
A perfect counterpart in outward form:
So perfect that, if it were possible,
To place us by those earthly counterparts,
No man on earth, no fairy in the clouds
Could tell which was the fairy, which the man.

It appears that if one of the fairies visits the earth this mortal counterpart can be transported to cloud-land. Accordingly, the requisite magic ceremony is performed, and the substitution takes place. Sir Ethais and Sir Phyllon (Mr. W. Kendal and Mr. Edward Arnot) ascend quarrelling, and the former is wounded in the arm. The fairies are much amused by the affair, looking upon it as a comic exhibition. Selené, Queen of the Fairies (Miss Robertson), falls violently in love with Ethais. Zayda, another fairy (Miss M. Lytton), suffers her heart to be swayed in the same direction, and takes great interest in the recovery of Ethais. Thereupon ensue jealousies, recrimination, and such eloquent bickerings as the lovers of Fairyland may be supposed to indulge in. At the end of the second act the storm rises to the height, and the Queen has to utter a vehement malediction against Ethais for his inconstancy. In this curious mélange Mr. Buckstone sustains the part of a "serving fairy," Iutin, whose earthly counterpart has a vixen wife, and varies the interest, which is mostly tragic, with some spice of comic humour. The whole is capably performed—the acting, indeed, in some instances first rate. Miss Robertson is a fine declaimer, and Mr. Kendal looks the Gothic knight admirably. Mr. Gilbert's portion of the work takes high rank for its carefulness and effective execution. May we venture, however, to suggest that its style is too rhetorical? It is more like that of Otway and Rowe, than of Shakspeare, Beaumont and Fletcher, or Ben Jonson. It is, in fact, in direct contrast with "The Sad Shepherd," "The Faithless Shepherdess," and "The Midsummer Night's Dream." Those fanciful turns of diction, occasional rhymes, and that varied rhythm which distinguish the masterpieces of the pastoral drama are not to be found in "The Wicked World." Instead, we find moral and logical argument, direct reasoning, and a solid fabric of language, such as we might expect from Pope or Dryden. In the elder poets we have the matter in a fluid state, yielding to the poetic impulse, and therefore thoroughly plastic in every phase of story or passion. Mr. Gilbert is too much in earnest, does not play with his subject, and rigidly confines himself within a prosaic outline, in which the very allegory itself looks like bald history, and is suggestive of nothing beyond. The author shrinks not even from theological terms, and speaks of "sin" and "righteousness," making much of the dialogue look like fragments of a sermon. He makes, too, the fairies talk of their "mission." The true poetic tact and instinct are here wanting which would have thrown a veil over such themes and provided less obvious terms. There is also an absence of the grotesque which abounds in the elder drama. Mr. Gilbert has no satyrs nor eccentrics; he substitutes for these his "serving-fairy," and trusts to the native humour of Mr. Buckstone's features and figure. Nor does he indulge us with snatches of lyric melody, which might have gracefully relieved the moral argument, otherwise too abundant in the general treatment. Like Pope's, the poetry of Mr. Gilbert is that of common sense, not of imagination soaring upwards, with a tendency to dare the highest flights, such as we find them in Shakspeare's "Tempest." Still, for these days, Mr. Gilbert's poetic merit is noteworthy, and his productions place the Haymarket house at the head of English theatres. They show also that blank verse is, after all, the natural language of the stage, and that it is acceptable to a large portion of the British public.

The annual meetings of students and teachers from all parts of the country in connection with the Tonic Sol-Fa College were concluded last week, having extended over seven days. Papers were read and lectures given on a variety of musical subjects, including the study of voice cultivation in the light of the revelations of the laryngoscope, by means of which the action of the larynx is laid bare to the eye. A paper of statistics, read by Mr. J. S. Curwen, estimated, on a careful plan, that 315,000 pupils were under instruction every year.



OUR SPECIAL ARTIST'S VOYAGE TO CHINA: THE STEAMER TRAVANCORE TAKING IN CARGO AT SINGAPORE.



"DIGGING OUT." BY G. B. GODDARD.

"DIGGING OUT."

The experiences of foxhunters must naturally be varied with the sort of country over which they pursue that swift and cunning beast, which affords them such excellent sport. But in some districts, where the fields are intersected by covered drains, it is a frequent occurrence that the fox takes refuge in such a convenient place of shelter, and the "run" is vexatiously interrupted. The huntsman on these occasions has sometimes no better expedient than to call for the aid of two or three farm labourers with pickaxe and spade and dig an opening into the "culvert," wherever he may think it most likely that a dog sent in there will encounter the fox between the new hole and the nearest mouth of exit, so as to drive the lurking "varmint" out with the least delay. A fox-terrier is the dog employed for this particular service; and it is one of that breed we recognise in the rather small, white, stiff-armed animal that is peering down into the hole at his master's elbow, in the scene delineated by our Artist, which is entitled "Digging Out." In the meantime we observe that two or three of the noble pack of foxhounds, more eager or less experienced than the rest, are trying to force their way into the drain where Reynard lies concealed. The gentlemen have leisure for a chat or a cigar; their horses, too, recover wind and strength, and these may be none the worse for this unwilling pause in the headlong chase, if their riders be careful to walk them gently up and down, and prevent their taking cold.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

At a time when racing is suspended for a few weeks, and there are no important steeplechase or coursing meetings to chronicle, a few turf statistics of the past season may not prove uninteresting. Commencing, then, with the winning owners, we note with pleasure that the eighty-eight victories of the "red, white, and blue" have placed M. Lefevre firmly at the head of the poll, with a grand total of £23,209. Last year (his first on the turf) the enterprising Frenchman was second on the list, with about £10,000 to his credit, and we never remember a beginner meeting with such success, though it must be taken into consideration that such a gigantic stud is rarely owned by any one man. Reine is the principal contributor to the grand total, as the little mare's One Thousand and Oaks victories were worth nearly £8000; and Flageolet, Drummond, and the everlasting Dutch Skater also did good service. A turn of luck, which such a thorough sportsman well deserved, placed Mr. Savile second, with £15,826, for which he is almost entirely indebted to Cremorne and Kaiser, though towards the end of the season Lillian won six or seven races, and proved herself to be unquestionably the best filly of her year. To the above-mentioned sum may be added about £5000 for Cremorne's success in the Grand Prix de Paris; and, if there is nothing really the matter with Kaiser, the prospects of the Nunnery stable for the ensuing season look bright indeed. Silver Ring, Andred, and the half-brothers, Queen's Messenger and Paladin, sons of his favourite Queen Bertha, have brought in Lord Falmouth third with £9974, an amount that would probably have been much larger had not "the Messenger" failed in his St. Leger preparation. Gertrude was Queen Bertha's first foal, and if she never produces another winner she will have done enough to entitle her to a very high place among our aristocratic stud matrons. Having, for a wonder, no invincible two-year old to carry the "boy in yellow," Mr. Merry is only fourth, with £8425, the result of twenty-six wins; but, if the beautiful Marie Stuart can beat Silver Ring in the One Thousand and Oaks, we may expect to see him take a better place at the end of this year. Mr. Crawford (£8204) presses him very closely, and "Chaloner wins!" has often been the cry when the "scarlet" has been seen to the fore on Gang Forward, Dalnacardoch, or Wellingtonia. Lord Wilton (£6600), Mr. Joseph Dawson (£5910), and Lord Ailesbury (£5020) respectively owe their prominent positions entirely to Wenlock, Prince Charlie, and Cantinière; and it is a little singular that while the first named has not been fit to run since his sensational Doncaster victory, Prince Charlie and Cantinière are such bad roasters that they cannot be expected to do much more. "Follow the Baron" has proved a singularly disastrous "tip," for, instead of having secured nearly £25,000, as he did in 1871, Baron Rothschild has only won twenty races, of the value of £4691. Commencing the year with such animals as Favonius, Hannah, Corisande, and Laburnum, the "blue and yellow" seemed likely to carry all before it; but never was a more complete collapse of a formidable team, as all except Favonius have disgraced themselves, and even he failed at Ascot, just when his services were most required. Lord Aylesford has been successful in securing "little fish;" but, though he has carried off forty-three races, being second to M. Lefevre in that respect, they were only worth £4517. Mr. Chaplin (£3380) has done well, considering the smallness of his stud; Sir Joseph Hawley (£1925) must long for a return of the Blue Gown and Pero Gomez days; Lord St. Vincent (£515) and the Duke of Beaufort (£483) have sunk very low; while Mr. Naylor, who must be tired of waiting for another Macaroni and Carnival era, seems to have vanished from the list altogether.

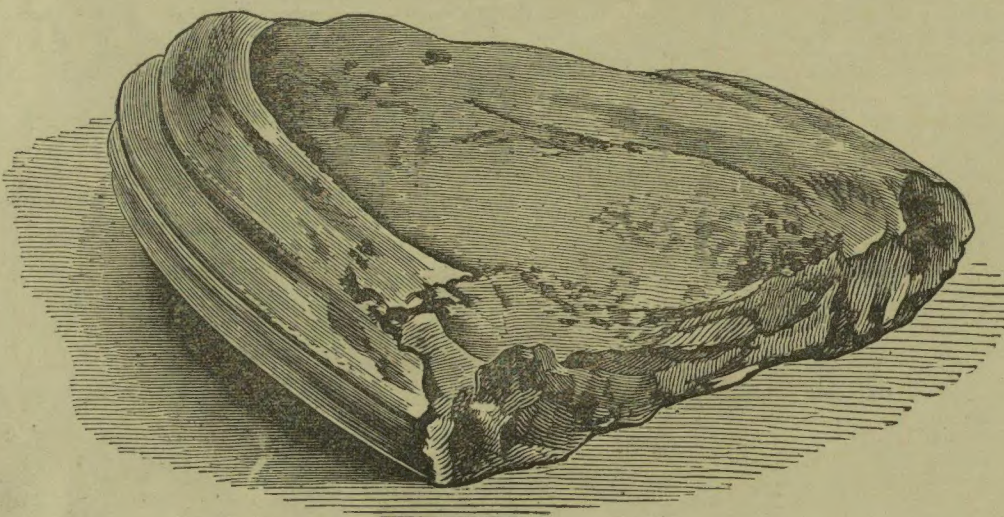
Turning next to the winning sires of 1872, we find Blair Athol installed as premier with £14,633 to his credit. This amount has been contributed by twenty-four winners of sixty-nine races, Prince Charlie, Silver Ring, and Andred being his best supporters. It is an ominous fact, however, that two out of these three are roasters, and there can be no doubt that an impression is gaining ground that the Blair Athols cannot stay. He is still quite a young sire, and in another year or so his stock will probably show great improvement in this all-important respect. Formidable even after death, Stockwell is a splendid second with £12,683, more than half of which amount has been put together by Cantinière and Gang Forward. This season will see the last lot of two-year-olds by Stockwell, so he cannot hold his prominent position much longer. Thanks to Cremorne, Parmesan, with only seven winners to his name, comes third with £10,049; and close to him is Lord Clifden, whose twenty-seven winners, the largest number claimed by any sire, have only amassed £9710, nearly half of which is due to Wenlock's victory in the St. Leger. Monarque's (£9510) position is due entirely to Reine; and Queen's Messenger has done good service to Trumpeter (£7708). Macaroni stands well with nineteen winners of £7211; and then come St. Albans (£7173), Scottish Chief (£6687), Adventurer (£6158), and Oxford (£6114). The defunct Saccharometer showed great promise, as his eight winners secured stakes worth £4953, and such a sterling horse as Vanderdecken would make the fortune

of any young sire. The Duke's seven winners have credited him with £4320, and Somerset is a good advertisement for him. Saunterer (£3711) has fallen a good many places in the list; King Tom, with no Hannah or Corisande to help him, has only taken £2678, a great contrast to last season; and Lord Lyon (£2984) has not done much.

Coming to "the instruments of gaming" themselves, it is almost unnecessary to mention that Cantinière is the chief two-year-old winner, her six successive victories having enriched Lord Ailesbury to the extent of £4920. Kaiser, who was successful in exactly half of his ten engagements, is a good second with £4006; and Flageolet (£2710) a moderate third. The hard-working Tester has earned £2130 by his fifteen races; but Andred and Somerset only won twice to credit their owners with £1925 and £1805 respectively. Acropolis (£1694), Surinam (£1635), Gang Forward (£1588½), Silver Ring (£1510), and Queen of the Bees (£1510) are the next in order. Among the three-year-olds, a good race between Cremorne and Reine terminated in the victory of the former, who secured £7725 against his rival's £7325. This is a good example of the enormous amount of luck there is in racing; for while Cremorne is undoubtedly one of the best horses of modern times, Reine is at least 28 lb. inferior to him, and would never have won the One Thousand and Oaks but for meeting the most wretched lot of fillies ever got together. Prince Charlie (£5425), Wenlock (£4450), and Queen's Messenger (£4325) are third, fourth, and fifth. Thanks to his Epsom successes, Digby Grand (£2165) is the premier four-year-old; Spennithorne (£2040), another handicap horse, being a good second, and both finishing a long way before Favonius (£1500). Indian Ocean heads the five-year-olds, with £2375; Guy Dayrell (£1390) is second; and the Alexandra Plate—his only race this year—places Musket third with £1195. Dutch Skater is deservedly first among the "six and aged" division, as his £2015 represents seven victories out of eleven races; and Oxonian (£1160) is the only other horse in the class that gets into four figures.

THE OPHIR OF SCRIPTURE.

Strange stories have been told of late about the Ophir of Solomon having been discovered. The recently-opened diamond-mines of South Africa led to explorations further north, which resulted in the revelation of extensive gold-mines. Mr. Hartley, the lion-hunter, and Mr. Mauch, the German explorer, went further, and made known a more northern auriferous district. It is in the last-discovered gold-field that the real Ophir is supposed to have been seen. The diamond ground is beyond the Orange river, north-east of Cape Colony, running into the Orange



SUPPOSED CAPITAL OF A PILLAR FROM OPHIR, SOUTH AFRICA.

Free State of the Boers. Going northward through the South African Republic, the Limpopo is reached; that stream enters Delagoa Bay. Once over the Limpopo, the southern gold-mines present themselves. Entering Mosili Katse's country, one gains the new northern field, extending to the valley of the Zambesi.

Ophir is, like Sofala, a name commonly given to auriferous deposits. There are Ophirs and Sofalas in California, Australia, and Africa. One of the first sites of the precious metal in New South Wales was called Ophir. The ruins claimed to mark the position of the Bible Ophir are placed in latitude 20 deg. 15 min. S. and longitude 31 deg. 40 min. E. This is certainly in the interior of Sofala, in Eastern Africa, and easily accessible from the sea.

The story goes that a German missionary was told of great mines there; but, as the natives feared to go as guides, the missionary did not visit the place. Mr. Carl Mauch now reveals it, and has sent down specimens of ancient works, with moulding of cornices, and other architectural forms. Recent examination, however, throws the cold shade of doubt over this pretty romance. A geologist discovers the "mouldings" to be a calcareous deposit upon the shale, and asserts that concretions of a similar kind are common in all gold countries. The illustration pictures one of the interesting objects of discussion.

The municipality of Burntisland, Fife, have purchased, for £7800, for the purpose of constructing new docks, the estate of Rossend, with the old castle, once held by the famous Kirkcaldy of Grange.

Favoured by fine weather, the Reading Steeplechases on Tuesday attracted a numerous attendance of spectators. The Whitley Handicap, the most important of the day's events, was won by Mr. Percival's Owen Swift, Blacksmith coming in second, and The Judge third.

The Scotsman states that Captain Allason Cunninghame, of Logan o' Afton, has presented a clock, of the value of one hundred guineas, to the parish church of Old Cumnock, having recently made a like gift to New Cumnock church; while to Tarbolton parish church he has presented a silver communion service of like value.

Lord Derby supported on Monday, with pleas of great cogency, the claims of the Manchester Boys' Refuge and Industrial Home, pointing out the economical wisdom, apart from motives of humanity, of helping lads entering on life—and who were in danger of "knowing civilisation only by the restraint which it imposes, and not by the benefits it confers"—to form habits of thrift, industry, and usefulness. Incidentally his Lordship observed that, whatever may be the explanation of the fact, we seem to have in England "more than our fair share of roughs, habitual beggars, and people who live without any recognised means of getting their livelihood."

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, with three codicils, of Edward Henry Beddington, of No. 98, Lancaster-gate, Hyde Park, and of No. 34, Monkwell-street, City, merchant, was proved, on the 31st ult., by Hyam Leopold Beddington, David Hyam, and John Henry Beddington, the acting executors, the personality being sworn under £300,000. The testator bequeaths to each of his executors who shall prove, and to his brother-in-law Louis Nathan, £500; to his nephew Louis Walford, £1000; to his nephew David Lionel Beddington, £3000; upon trust for his sisters Rosetta and Alice, £3000 each; and to his wife, Mrs. Julia Beddington, all the household goods, horses, and carriages in and about his residence, the ready money about the house up to £500, a legacy of £500, and a further sum of £100 to distribute amongst the servants; he also gives her the dividends of £30,000, the rents of his freehold property in Mincing-lane and Modiford-court, and the use and enjoyment of his house at Lancaster-gate for life; after her death the said house is given to his son Henry Edward. The will contains legacies of £100 each, free of duty, to the Rev. A. L. Green, the Rev. Simon Asher, and the Rev. D. Kezier; and a like sum of £100 is given to each of the following charities, also free of duty—viz., the Jews' Orphan Asylum, Tenter-ground, Goodman's-fields; the German Jews' Hospital, Lower Norwood; the Jews' Free School, Bell-lane, Spitalfields; the Jews' Infant School, Commercial-street, Whitechapel; the Society for the Relief of the Indigent Blind of the Jewish persuasion; the Jews' Society for Supporting the Aged Needy, instituted in the year of the world 5589; the Jews' College in Finsbury-square; the Jews' Hand-in-Hand Asylum, Wellclose-square; the Great Synagogue in Duke's-place, Aldgate; and the London Hospital, Mile-end-road. All his freehold property in the Westminster Bridge-road, Mincing-lane, Modiford-court, Jeffreys-road, St. John's-wood, Lombard-street, Clapham-rise, Beddington, Mitcham, Carshalton, and New Zealand testator devises to his son Henry Edward Beddington for life, and then to his issue as he shall appoint; his leasehold house in the Minorities testator gives to his eldest daughter, Rachael. A legacy of £20,000 is left to each of his children, and £1000 additional to each of his daughters to provide their marriage trousseaux. The testator divides the residue of his property, real and personal, among his children, sons to take double the shares appropriated to daughters.

The Scotch confirmation of the will of the late Sir David Baxter, Bart., of Dundee, was sealed at the principal registry, London, on the 27th ult. The personal effects in the United Kingdom amount to £1,093,809 19s. 4d.

The will, dated Feb. 16, 1870, of the Hon. Dame Katharine Doughty, widow of Sir Edward Doughty, Bart., late of Tichborne Park, was proved on the 31st ult. by Sir Joseph Percival Pickford Radcliffe, Bart., and Katharine Mary Elizabeth Radcliffe, his wife, the executors. The testatrix gives two bonds of the Dorsetshire-road Trusts to the Right Rev. Dr. Vaughan, or to the Bishop for the time being of the Roman Catholic diocese of Plymouth, and directs the income to be applied for the benefit of the Poole Roman Catholic Mission; and she appoints her daughter, the said Katharine Mary Elizabeth Radcliffe, residuary legatee.

The will of the late Edward Stone, of Thorpe Lodge, Campden-hill, Kensington, was proved on the 6th inst. by his two sons, the executors, in the principal registry, the personality being sworn under £160,000. He bequeaths the whole of his property to be divided between his children, consisting of two sons and three daughters, in proportions of two sevenths to each of his sons, and one seventh in trust for each of his daughters.

The will and codicil of Mrs. Eliza Partridge Price, late of No. 21, Queen's-gate, Kensington, were proved, on the 24th ult., by William Willoughby George Hunt Sitwell and Thomas George Groves, Esqrs., the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £90,000. Among the legacies are £100 each to the Birkenhead Charity Schools and the Clothing Club at Overton, Flintshire; and one of £50 to the Bangor National Schools, all free of legacy duty. The residue of her property testatrix has given upon trust for her niece, Eliza Harriet Sitwell, her husband, and children.

The will of John Penn Allen, Esq., of No. 3, Devonshire-place, Portland-place, was proved on the 30th ult., by the Right Hon. Edmund Hammond, the nephew, the acting executor. The personal property is sworn under £50,000. The testator leaves to his great-nephew, Henry Chetwynd Stapylton, £100; to Ferdinando Valentini, £1500 New Three per Cent Stock and £5000 sterling; to his servant George Wraight £100 New Threes and £1000 sterling; and to his servant Caroline Wood £100—all free of duty; to his brother, Henry Dawson Allen, he leaves the dividends of £4000 New Three per Cent Stock for life; and the residue of his property he gives to the said Edmund Hammond and his (testator's) niece, Mrs. Margaret Chetwynd Stapylton.

The probate of the will, with two codicils, of the Right Hon. Eyre Massey, third Baron Clarina, of Elm Park, Limerick, granted at Dublin, was sealed in the London registry on the 26th ult. The personal effects in the United Kingdom are sworn under £8000.

The will of Dame Katherine Mary Harvey, of Larkfield, Richmond, was proved, on the 31st ult., by her husband, Sir George Frederick Harvey, K.C.S.I., the sole legatee named in the will.

An offer of Baroness Burdett-Coutts to defray the cost of erecting a drinking-fountain in some convenient part of Manchester has been accepted by the Town Council.

A tablet has been placed in St. Peter's Church, Newcastle, to the memory of the late Mr. William Sidney Gibson, who for many years was Registrar of the Newcastle Bankruptcy Court. Mr. Gibson was well known for his valuable contribution to literature and archaeology.

The Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt have given notice that the sum of £1,227,456 8s. 10d., being one fourth part of the surplus of £4,909,825 15s. 4d., for the year ending Sept. 30 last, will be applied in the quarter ending March 31 next towards the reduction of the National Debt.

Miss Marsh appeals, on behalf of the Convalescent Hospital at Blackrock, Brighton, for some of the help which is flowing so freely at this season for every form of charity. Donations or subscriptions will be received by Lady Emma Dalzell or Miss Marsh, at the Rectory, Beckenham, Kent; at Messrs. Drummond's Bank, Charing-cross; or by Mr. Hornbuckle, hon. secretary, London Hospital, E.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

EARL OF GALLOWAY.

The Right Hon. Randolph Stewart, ninth Earl of Galloway, in the Peerage of Scotland, third Baron Stewart, of Garlies, in the Peerage of Great Britain, and a Baronet of Nova Scotia, died, on the 2nd inst., at his seat, Galloway House, Wigtownshire. His Lordship was born, Sept. 16, 1800, the elder son of George, eighth Earl of Galloway, K.T., Admiral of the Blue, by Lady Jane Paget, his wife, daughter of Henry, Earl of Uxbridge, and was the representative of a very eminent line of Stewart, descended from a celebrated Scottish patriot, Sir John Stewart of Garlies (a younger son of Alexander, sixth Lord High Steward of Scotland), who fell at the battle of Falkirk, in 1298. His Lordship was educated at Harrow, and at Christ Church, Oxford, and sat in the House of Commons, when Lord Garlies, from 1826 to 1831, as member for Cockermouth. He succeeded his father as Earl of Galloway, March 27, 1834, and was for some time Lieutenant of the counties of Wigtown and Kirkcubright. He married, Aug. 9, 1833, Lady Harriet Blanche Somerset, daughter of Henry Charles, sixth Duke of Beaufort, and leaves a large family. His eldest son, Alan Plantagenet, Lord Garlies, M.P. for Wigtownshire, late Captain Royal Horse Guards, born Oct. 21, 1835, succeeds as tenth Earl of Galloway and fourth Lord Stewart. He married, Jan. 15, 1872, Lady Mary Arabella Gascoigne Cecil, eldest daughter of James, second Marquis of Salisbury, K.G.

SIR GEORGE MUSGRAVE, BART.

Sir George Musgrave, tenth Baronet, of Edenhall, in the county of Cumberland, died on the 29th ult., at his residence, in Albemarle-street. He was born June 14, 1799, the third son of Sir John Charden Musgrave, seventh Baronet, by Mary, his wife, daughter of the Rev. Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart., of East Sutton Place, Kent, and succeeded to the title at the death of his brother, the Rev. Sir Christopher John Musgrave, ninth Baronet, May 11, 1834. He was a magistrate for Cumberland and Westmorland, and served as High Sheriff of the former county in 1840. In early life he held a commission in the 15th (King's) Hussars. Sir George married, June 26, 1823, Charlotte, sister of the late 26, 1823, Charlotte, sister of the late

Right Hon. Sir James Graham, Bart., of Netherby, and leaves three daughters, all married, and one surviving son, now Sir Richard Courtenay Musgrave, eleventh Baronet, born in 1838, and married, in 1867, to Adora Frances Olga, only daughter of Peter Wells, Esq., of Forest Farm, Windsor. The Musgraves are of very ancient descent. Camden, speaking of the village of Musgrave, in Westmorland, says, "it gave name to the warlike family of the Musgraves." One of the chiefs of the house, Sir Philip Musgrave, second Baronet, a renowned Cavalier, had a warrant, after the Restoration, for the title of "Lord Musgrave, of Hartley Castle," but the patent was never taken out. "The Luck of Edenhall," commemorated by poet and romancer, is a curious legend attaching to the family.

MR. AUGUSTUS FITZHARDINGE BERKELEY.

Augustus FitzHardinge Berkeley, third son of Frederick Augustus, fifth Earl of Berkeley, by his first marriage with Miss Mary Cole (a marriage not proved to the satisfaction of the House of Lords), died on the 27th ult., aged eighty-three. He was next younger brother of Admiral Sir Maurice F. FitzHardinge Berkeley, who was created Baron FitzHardinge in 1861. Mr. Augustus Berkeley married, in 1815, Mary, eldest daughter of Sir John Dashwood King, Bart., and had issue.

THE DOWAGER LADY HAMOND.

Elizabeth, Lady Hamond, widow of Sir Graham Eden Hamond, G.C.B., K.T.S., Admiral of the Fleet, died at her residence, Norton Lodge, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, on the 24th ult., in her eighty-ninth year. Her Ladyship was daughter of John Kimber, Esq., of Fowey, Cornwall. Her marriage took place Dec. 30, 1806, and its issue consisted of two sons and three daughters. Of the former, the elder is the present Vice-Admiral Sir Andrew Snape Hamond, third Baronet. Lady Hamond was left a widow Dec. 20, 1862.

MR. GOFF, OF BURTON GRANGE.

Joseph Goff, Esq., of Burton Grange, Herts, eldest son of Joseph Goff, Esq., of Hale Park, Hants, died, in London, on Dec. 27. He was born in 1817, and married, in 1850, Lady Adela Knox, youngest daughter of the second Earl of Ranfurly, by whom he leaves issue Joseph Granville Stuart Goff, Lieutenant 43rd Light Infantry, and six other children.

The *Yorkshire Post* says that at a meeting of gentlemen of the district hunted by Lord Middleton's hounds, held at Malton, on Saturday, and presided over by Lord Wenlock, arrangements were made for presenting a testimonial to the noble Lord as an acknowledgment of his services and great liberality as master of the hounds for the last twenty years. The sum of £2000 will be required for the testimonial, which is to take the form chiefly of a portrait, and of this £700 has already been subscribed.

A singular freak has been committed by a young Curate, who, on Thursday week, was to have been married to the daughter of a county magistrate in Staffordshire, a member of the congregation in which the Curate ministered. On the previous night he made his customary visit at the young lady's house, where the presents were laid out in the drawing-room, and several friends had arrived to take part in the ceremony on the morrow. The villagers had decorated the church and festooned the streets. The bride put on some of her wedding costume, to show her suitor, who remarked, "What should you say if I should run away, and not come to-morrow?" The young lady laughed away the suggestion as the height of improbability. In the morning, when the bride and her friends were about to enter the carriages, a note from the Curate was put into her hand. She read it and immediately fainted. Her suitor had written that he "felt he was unworthy of her, and therefore could not become her husband." It turned out that within an hour after leaving his bride-expectant on the previous night the Curate had left for the north by the Scotch mail.

CHESS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed "To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS," &c., and have the word "Chess" legibly written on the outside of the envelope.

POSTO, W. S. A. T.—See the notice to "M. P. S. D." and others, in our last King's Knight. We cannot spare time to seek the solution of a position which, considering the worthlessness of the book from which it is taken, is most probably wrong.

E. O.—All contributions must be accompanied by the sender's name and address.

L. S. C. W. W. R. B. F. M. G. T. R. C. H. E.—They shall have attention.

W. S. HAMMOND.—An unfortunate omission, truly, but now past remedy. In such cases it is useless to mention corrections; no one ever looks at them.

W. H. R., Jersey, is thanked for his obliging note. Unfortunately, at this time we are overwhelmed by examples of the Knight's Tour, having more on hand than we can possibly publish for the next two years.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—It is a case of drawn game, but not, inevitably, by perpetual check.

The key moves are—

WHITE. 1. R to K 8th (ch) 2. Kt to Kt 6th (ch)

BLACK. 1. P takes R 2. P takes Kt

3. P takes P, dis ch 4. Q takes Q (best). Drawn game by stalemate.

5. Kt takes K P (ch). Drawn game by perpetual check.

Mr. PARDOCK, Hamburg.—If you will be at the trouble to write out the position distinctly on a diagram, the solution shall be obtained. We are unable to decipher a part of your description, or to quite make out your signature.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1505 has been received from H.V.D.—Andrew—H. Hilton—E. B.—I. Tassell—W. H. Gunston—A. E.—Trial—Dr. Pangloss—Q. E. D.—Garry—H. B. K.—W. F. D.—I. N.—John Waller—J. F.—G. O'Rilla—Joseph Sowden—Q. E. P.—Henry—Sandford and Merton—Polly—M. P.—Box and Cox—Tom Tiddler—Johnny—Janie's Slave—Cuthbert—G. B.—W. S. D.—D. A., Dublin—R. D. T.—Flyford Flavel—Maured and Man Friday—Poulo—W. Airey.

SECOND LIST OF THOSE WHO HAVE CORRECTLY SOLVED THE MULTUM IN PARVO PROBLEMS.—Ranger—A. D. Gilbert—Mango—H. P. E.—Joseph Sowden—W. S. B.—Tim Bobbin—H. W. P.—Charley—P. R. S.—Q. E. P.—Comte d'Orfengo—Janie's Young Man—M. G. E.—Fergus—Try Again—H. B. K.—Norman—D. B.—Hargrave—Bozzy—Poon and Rook—L. S. D.—Von Arnfeldt—Keith and Kate—Merry Andrew—Egbert and Edith—L. Muthoon and E. Frau of Lyons—H. Frau of Lyons—W. H. Gunston—Walter Bennett—Dura—S. B. B.—M. Komaromy—Lyneae—Paulo—Q. E. D.—Fandango—W. Perry—Bobadil—John Fox.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF THE KNIGHT'S TOUR No. XIV. (second list) has been received from Old King Cole—C. L. Camden—Louis A. Brighton—Mabel—C. B. Sheehy—S. C. A. M., Clapham—F. K. S.—Philip—Helen Thompson—Laura—E. P. Warrall—J. Simmons—H. B. Ramsbury—Boxwood—C. E. W. Birkenhead—S. V. R., Liscaud—Buziaz—Halleyburienis—Pyrroft—Robert Langston—L. T. T. York—L. W. Yonge and M. A. E. Chapman—Streatham—John Ward—M. B.—R. Ferguson—K. A. B.—Edith C. P.—M. H. Bower—The Dyson of Beverly—Rob Roy—E. Merrick—E. T.—R. H. A.—T. H. Beckerton—Chynoweth—Glenoidin—P. B.—Daisie Lyndhurst and G. E. F.—Kate Wollerston—Alfred Chapman—St. Clair—S. H. C. Hastings—Spencer Lyndis, Weston—Gog—R. I. McL.—Clodwig—L. Estourgies, Brussels—G. B. H., Chester—W. Dowden, Cork—George Watson, Penrith—M. F. Billington—R. Godfrey—W. Birch—A. Balson of Ramsgate—M. E. R., Leeds—Ed. N. C. N.—Royal Robber—Luciola—Pierrot and Pickle—Grey Marble—Mother Bunch—Lady Bird—Parody, Winton—Book—A. P. G. D.—Windsor—Euclid—L. C. R., Dundee—S. R.—B. H. M. B.—A. Lankashire Lad—Gerbe—M. A. Cameron—Windsor Monkey—Carrigan—L. O., New Cross—E. A. M.—Springgrove—Bessy Guppy—Winifrede—L. Wilson—G. W. B.—Charley—W. G. Waterman—Crabbrook—M. E. Leese—Ingh—The Flying Dutchman—R. P. B.—A. Meenerbub—R. A. Boissier—D. 30 to 10—H. X 73—St. C. A. B., John-street—Walton-on-Thames—Henry S.—H. Chabot—D. C. L.—Morrison—Warhorse, Dover—E. H. Y.

Solutions geometrically, numerically, and syllabically correct by Senex—Patrick—Beta—H. P. V. of Charenton—Chy—Alfred Chapman, Dieppe—Henry Dowling—E. L. G.—William Wood—U. French—Woolwich Infant—C. A. B.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1505.

WHITE. 1. Q to K 7th 2. Kt takes P at K Kt 6th

BLACK. 1. Q takes Q, or* 2. P takes Kt

3. Kt gives mate.

*1. (If he does not take the Queen, then follows, 2. Q takes R (ch), and 3. R to R 8th. Mate.)

2. Kt takes P at K Kt 6th. Q takes Kt

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1506.

WHITE. 1. Q to K 8th 2. P to K Kt 6th

BLACK. 1. Kt takes Q (best) 2. P to K B 3rd (best)

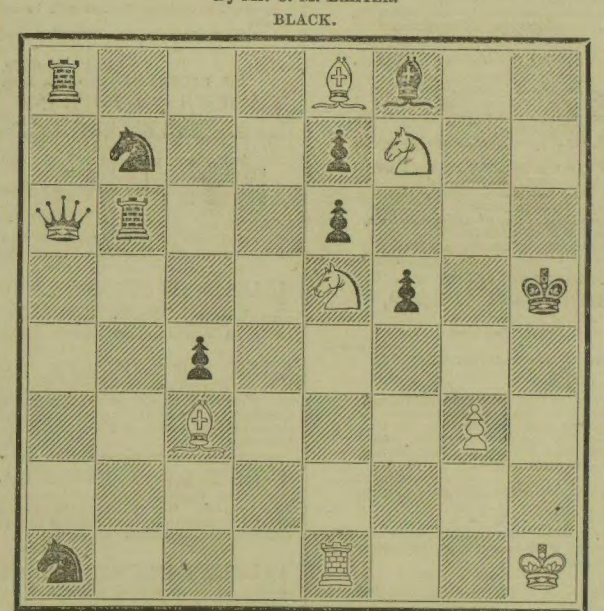
3. P to Kt 7th 4. Mates.

Any move

PROBLEM No. 1507.

By Mr. C. M. BAXTER.

BLACK.



WHITE. White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS BY CORRESPONDENCE.

The following lively Game is the first of a little match by correspondence between the Rev. C. E. Ranken and Mr. N. Fedden. (*Hampe's Opening.*)

WHITE (Mr. R.). BLACK (Mr. F.).

1. P to K 4th P to K 4th

2. Kt to Q B 3rd B to Q B 4th

3. Kt to K B 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd

4. Kt takes P

We should not have expected this from so accomplished a player as Mr. Ranken, especially in a deliberate game by correspondence.

4. B takes B P (ch) Kt takes Kt

5. K takes B Kt takes Kt

6. P to K 4th Q to K B 3rd (ch)

7. K to K sq

Had he retreated the King to Kt's square, Mr. Fedden could have played his Kt to Kt 5th with impunity, Black not daring to take it on account of the threatened mate.

7. B to K 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd

8. Q to Q 2nd K Kt to K 2nd

9. P to Q 5th

Was it judicious to admit the adverse Q's And Black wins.

CHESS AT GLASGOW.

An interesting Game between Dr. FRASER and Mr. JENKINS, recently played in a Tourney at the Glasgow Chess Club.—(*Kt's Bishop's Opening.*)

BLACK (Mr. J.). WHITE (Dr. F.).

1. P to K 4th P to K 4th

2. B to Q B 4th B to Q B 4th

3. P to Q Kt 4th B to Q Kt 3rd

4. Kt to K B 3rd P to Q 3rd

5. P to Q B 3rd Kt to K B 3rd

6. P to Q 3rd P to K R 3rd

7. P to K R 3rd Castles

8. Castles P to K 3rd

9. Kt to Q R 3rd B to Q B 3rd

10. B takes B P takes B

11. Kt to Q B 4th B to Q B 2nd

12. Q to K Kt 3rd P to K 2nd

13. Kt to K 3rd P to Q 4th

14. P to Q Kt 5th Q Kt to Q 2nd

P takes K Pawn would have been productive of some critical situations, the result of which it is difficult to determine. Dr. Fraser acted prudently in not venturing so hazardous a move in a match game.

15. B to Q R 3rd

16. B to Q R 3rd

17. Kt to K 5th

18. Kt to K 5th

19. Kt to K 5th

20. Kt to K 5th

21. Kt to K 5th

22. Kt to K 5th

23. Kt to K 5th

24. Kt to K 5th

25. Kt to K 5th

26. Kt to K 5th

27. Resigns.

Dr. Fraser has fairly turned the tables on his adversary now, and acquired a very favourable position for attack.

23. Kt to K 4th Q R to K sq

24. P to Q 4th

K R to K sq would have been less injurious; but he had no perfectly satisfactory move of Kt to B 5th.

25. P to K Kt 3rd Kt to K 5th (ch)

26. K to Kt 2nd R takes Kt

27. Resigns.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

Many persons have lately had opportunity of witnessing the performance of the perennial burlesque of "The Critic." They may, therefore, be aware that while Mr. Puff is expatiating on the fine effect produced by the sound of the morning gun of Tilbury Fort, he is horrified by hearing another and yet another like discharge; whereupon he observes "Hang those fellows; when they get a good thing they always want too much of it!" Something akin to this has occurred in the case of Mr. Cardwell and Mr. Vernon Harcourt at Oxford. As has been duly chronicled, the general constituency of that city rebelled against the custom which has prevailed that their members should make their annual confession to, and obtain absolution from, the mystical fraternity of Druids, after a feast which was in the main exclusive. So they insisted that they should hear their representatives dry-lipped, and unsupported by a single social influence. Accordingly they both spoke at portentous length at a public meeting proper, acquitting themselves satisfactorily, each from his own point of view, which are very different points of view in most respects. Nevertheless the Druids were determined to have the more or less private expositions of their Parliamentary "brothers," and to enjoy the usual feast of reason and flow of soul associated with their anniversary. Thus it came to pass that the gentlemen in question had each to make other discharges (of eloquence) in very close succession to the first. Sequences are generally held to be failures; and, on the face of it, it is a little trying for even practised debaters to make two speeches on the same subject on succeeding days, even if their audience were an entirely different one, which for the most part could not be the case in this instance, for Druids after all are men and electors, and probably all those who were at the banquet were also at the previous feast of reason. It is undoubted that both Mr. Cardwell and Mr. Harcourt acquitted themselves skilfully, and not only got through an apparent difficulty, but achieved a triumph. It is true that Mr. Cardwell sought more to be genial than vigorous, vigour being not exactly in his line at any time; but having to speak for the Army specially, he was able to treat the subject with a certain effect. Nor were his observations without a certain craft, for in endeavouring to show that there ought to be more intercommunication between the Army and the people of England, he was making side-long attempts to sap a feeling which has arisen in Oxford against making that ancient city, or rather a spot some three miles from it, one of the central depôts which are to be the bases of our new military system. He became so adroit and insinuating on the subject that he may be said to have exercised some of the arts of the recruiting sergeant on the Druids present, and may have induced some of them to be inclined to enlist in either the militia or volunteer corps, which are to be brigaded with the gallant 52nd or Oxfordshire Regiment of Foot.

Considerable practice during last Session in harping continually on one question may have enabled Mr. Vernon Harcourt to make his second speech in some sort original, or, at any rate, not a repetition of the topics of his first. While at Oxford, and side by side with Mr. Cardwell, he seemed to be imbued with the same feeling which influenced him last year, as a free lance below the gangway; and, taking the Secretary for War as the embodiment of the Ministry, he poured out his sarcasms and quips in much the same continuity and profusion as he did in the House when he was fighting against the Parks Bill. Although the development of his grim humour was fair and adequate, and ingenuity was not at all wanting in his arguments, it would seem that in striving to be very clever, he did not hesitate to utter some patent fallacies. Ignoring the sarcastic allusion to Mr. Cardwell, when he said that he would be "dull and decorous," Mr. Harcourt played some very fantastic and not unamusing tricks. For instance, he talked seriously of this country reducing its Army to the amount of 24,000 men, which the United States deem sufficient for their war purposes; and of our having practically no Navy at all. It is just possible that he might have carried the irony further, and laid down that, whereas with great difficulty we could bring together some 30,000 men to play at soldiers, in a very precise sense of the term, and as our great ships-of-war seem to be used principally for the purpose of "turning turtle," and going down, running ashore, or ramming huge holes in each other's sides, we are practically without either Army or Navy, and some thirty millions might therefore well be saved. But to draw any analogy in regard to the need of armaments, in the abstract, between this country and America was a very solemn joke. It must be confessed that when Mr. Harcourt came to deal with the land question he must have been in difficulties, for ever and anon, while he was touching on some of the most delicate points in that matter, he could not but have feared whether a phantom of that entire personal and social liberty which he had so recently invoked might rise in the midst of the feast and shake its skinny finger at him. However, he managed this part of his speech admirably, and, on the whole, exhibited all that readiness and resource for an oration which might have been expected of him.

Though "mute in the Senate" for very good reasons, inasmuch as one whisper of his in the lobby is worth a dozen eloquent speeches in the House, Mr. W. P. Adam does not seek to excuse himself from the annual sacrifice of himself before his constituents. If the electors of Clackmannan and Kinross do not know when they have got an eligible representative, they ought to know it. But it would be ill-speaking of the acuteness, the "pawkiness," of the voters of that district which Mr. Adam has been recently visiting in sections, even to insinuate that they are not aware how well off they are from a membership point of view. Possibly, as the honourable gentleman's Parliamentary avocations renders it necessary for him to be a great deal more about the precincts of the House than within it, he may be more accessible to some of those anxious-looking suppliants who are always to be found about the lobby hunting up their members, and who in many, if not most, cases are not easily dodged. Who better than he can put hope into an expressive look, success into a pressure of the hand, or failure into a deep sigh?—though doubtless this last device is rarely if ever resorted to. It happens in the case of this honourable member that, whereas now he is an influence, as a proximate Patronage Secretary to the Treasury, he bids fair to be a power, and one which constituencies cannot but respect and adulate.

The Scotch Education Board, at a sitting held last week, resolved to amalgamate twenty-one burghs having under 3000 inhabitants with the parishes in which they are situated for educational purposes, and to enlarge the school board area in two small burghs.

The Board of Trade returns for December and the twelve months ending Dec. 31 have been issued. They show that the total declared value of our exports in the month of December was £20,516,253, against £17,378,412 in the corresponding period of 1871; and in the twelve months £255,961,609, against £223,066,162 for 1871. The value of our imports in the month was estimated at £29,120,060, against £25,576,886; and in the twelve months at £353,375,740, against £330,754,359 in 1871.

NORTH LONDON or UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—Whilst the cost of provisions and every hospital commodity is increasing, the serious deficiency in public support this year, amounting to nearly £1500, occasions the Committee much anxiety. CONTRIBUTIONS, &c., will be most thankfully received and acknowledged by the Treasurer, Edward Enfield, Esq., 19, Chester-terrace, Regent's Park, and at the Hospital. H. J. KELLY, R.N., Secretary.

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Table d'Hôte at 6.30 p.m.

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The ALLOTMENT of the STREATHAM ESTATE will take place on JAN. 13, 1873, and following days.
This highly-eligible building land, facing Streatham-common and close to two railway stations, is now laid out for the erection of detached and semi-detached villas.
The frontages of the plots vary in size from 25 ft. to 40 ft.; depth, 130 ft. to 300 ft.

Persons becoming members of the Society before the Allotment takes place will receive a Right of Choice entitling them to select one or more plots on the above Estate, according to the number of shares subscribed for.

As the allotments are chosen by seniority, it is advisable for all who are desirous of purchasing to join the society at once.
Other estates will also be allotted at the same time, situate at Acton, Beckenham, Hithergreen, Leytonstone, Mitcham, New Southgate, Sidcup, Tottenham, and Woodford.

Plans and every information will be forwarded upon application to
BIRKBECK FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY,
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